

Admissions Policy

1. The leaders of the 5th, 8th & 12th Chichester Scout Groups have decided that there will be a maximum number of children in each of the sections of Beavers, Cubs, & Scouts. Leaders in each section determine these maximum numbers from time to time, depending particularly on the availability of helpers. Note that Beaver Colonies are limited officially to 24 children – unless the Group Scout Leader (GSL) agrees otherwise - and for that a large number of reliable helpers is needed (min ratio 1:6).
2. Absolute priority will be given to existing members transferring from one section to the next within each of Chichester Groups for whom places will always be provided, even if this means that sections are smaller than their limit whilst awaiting these transfers or larger afterwards. Cub and Scout section leaders must & will be mindful of this provision before admitting members directly to their section. The GSL will make sure sections are informed & aware of likely numbers transferring into their section from the previous one.
3. Priority will also be given to (a) children of Leaders and of members of the individual Chichester Group Executive Committee, (b) brothers and sisters of existing members where parents are actively supportive and involved with the group and (c) invested members of other groups outside of the District who wish to transfer to a Chichester Group due to a change of address. (*)
4. Parents and carers will be allowed to put a child's name on the Joining list at any time after the child is 4 years old. If predictions indicate that a place will be available, the child will be invited to start attending the appropriate section on a date specified by the Section Leader. If the Section Leader is unable to make contact by email or phone from the details supplied or the parent does not respond within a reasonable time to the offer of a place or the child does not take up the place, the offer will be forfeited. The start time for a child will, typically, be soon after their 6th Birthday for Beavers, 8th Birthday for Cubs and 10th birthday for Scouts, and at the start of a new term or half term.
5. No child will be refused admission or have membership in any way prejudiced because his parents or carers are unable or unwilling to help with the child's section.
6. If it is unlikely that an applicant will be offered a place, the parents must be told and help provided to find a place elsewhere.

(*) Having a friend in a neighbouring group is not a reason to transfer. Transfers between groups in the Chichester District and in particular the Chichester City Groups (5th, 8th or 12th) are not permitted, however the section leaders should consider individual cases on their merit. A final decision will not be made until the Group Scout Leader for each group has discussed the matter.