

Extended Schools

What are they and how can Scouting get involved?



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0845 300 1818

What are Extended Schools?

Extended Schools provide a range of services and activities, often beyond the school day, to help meet the needs of children, their families and the wider community.

Eventually 20,000 primary and secondary schools will offer a “wrap around” childcare service allowing parents to leave their children at school between 8am – 6pm on a non-compulsory basis.

Government Aim?

The aim is for all schools, children and families, to be able to access a core of Extended Services, making childcare at school available from 8am until 6pm, which are developed in partnership with others.

Primary and secondary schools will be encouraged to open for longer hours and offer extra childcare assistance to working families through breakfast and after-schools clubs.

Current Position?

Most primary schools (87%) offer regular activities for children after the school day, 63% of these schools, offer activities that finish at 5pm or earlier and 52% do so fewer than 5 days per week. Less than half of all primary schools, 40% in fact, offer before school activities for children. 75% of primary schools offering before school care start their provision at 8am or earlier. 89% of primary schools providing care from 8am or earlier deliver it throughout the 5-day working week. 96% of these primary schools offering care from 8am or earlier for 5 days a week provide this care for all three school terms.

Nearly all secondary schools (95%) offer regular activities for children after school. 55% of these activities finish before 5pm, while 28% run activities until 6pm or later. Although 60% of secondary schools offer activities both before and after school, only 10% offer activities from 8am-6pm, 5 days a week in all three school terms.

Links with Scouting?

The Government Policy “*Every Child Matters: Change for Children*” programme is a shared national programme of system-wide change designed to ensure that children’s services work better together with parents and carers to help give children more opportunities and better support.

It focuses on five outcomes that have been identified as being vital to children’s well-being. The outcomes link closely with the purpose and methods of Scouting.

Every Child Matters Outcomes	Scouting Method	Examples
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To be healthy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Taking part in activities outdoors ▪ Enjoying what they are doing ▪ Working in groups 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Taking part in wide game 2) Having fun with friends 3) Sixes, patrols, teamwork
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To stay safe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Taking responsibility for their own actions ▪ Taking increasing responsibility for others ▪ Making and living out their Promise 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Going camping 2) Helping to plan an activity 3) Raising funds for Tsunami Appeal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To enjoy and achieve 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enjoying what they are doing ▪ Learning by doing ▪ Participating in varied and progressive activities ▪ Taking responsibility for their own actions 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Working towards and gaining a badge 2) Progressive training scheme 3) Being part of the St Georges Day celebration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To make a positive contribution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking increasing responsibility for others • Making choices for themselves 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Community work for D of E Gold Award 2) Choosing which route to take on an incident hike
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To achieve economic well being 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Taking responsibility for their own actions 2) Making choices for themselves 3) Learning by doing 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Planning a menu on a budget for a hike 2) Running a patrol camp 3) Helping to plan the terms programme

The Scout Information Centre

Gilwell Park Chingford London E4 7QW Tel + 44 (0)20 8433 7100 Fax + 44 (0)20 8433 7103 email info.centre@scout.org.uk www.scoutbase.org.uk

Delivering Scouting through the Extended Schools provision offers huge potential to introduce, or re-introduce Scouting into disadvantaged areas, something that is high on the *Every Child Matters* agenda. To support schools in setting up and embedding their services, the government has committed finding of £849 m through 2003-2008. This will be made available through Local Authorities (LA) alongside funding direct to schools. In addition to this £1.3 billion has been made available over 2006-2008 for schools to support personalised learning during and beyond the school day. This is to support access to Extended Services, especially for children from disadvantaged backgrounds.

How can I get involved locally?

The Extended Schools programme as a whole, is keen to get involved with voluntary and community organisations (VCOs), in order to enhance Extended Schools and support the school in its core work.

If there is an extended school already set up then the person to contact is the **Extended School Coordinator** (ESC) who will be local to that school. The Local Authority may also employ an ESC who is responsible for all the extended school provision in the locality. If Extended Schools are not running where you are, contacting the Head Teacher in the school you have in mind would be the best place to start. While talking direct to the school, the LA should also be kept informed.

If you are interested in delivering Scouting as part of Extended School provision, please contact the Development and Diversity Department development@scout.org.uk or your Field Development Officer.

Example:

There are wide ranges of methods to deliver Scouting in Extended Schools. Below are some examples of how Scouting can be flexible to fit into Extended School provision.

- *Scout Group based in school as part of Extended Services delivered in the school. The Head Teacher and the Governors pro actively support the Group. The Group perhaps pays a subsidised rent for the hall, gets use of the school equipment and storage, has access to adults and young people for recruitment and uses admin. support through the school office.*

- *Scouting runs 2 days per week, Beaver Scouts on a Tuesday and Cub Scouts on a Thursday. There are 4 leaders for each section; who are the school librarian and 7 classroom assistants. The Group is run in the school; although there is more focus on delivering a balanced programme that covers the five Every Child Matters Outcomes by concentrating less on the aspects of uniform, ceremony and badge programmes.*
- *At a secondary school in a deprived area, Scouting offers Young Leader Training once a month as part of Extended Services. When the first section of training is complete, the Young Leaders help in local Scouting.*
- *At a primary school in a low-income area, Scouting is run as part of the curriculum on a Friday afternoon with leaders who are paid using money from the LA (could be a grant from The Scout Association Development Grants Board). This club uses the Scout programme as a way to deliver personalised learning, reward the pupils for completing the weeks schooling, and make them want to come back to school the following week.*

Future Opportunities?

With the Government having an aim of all schools offering an extended service by 2010, as this 'deadline' gets closer more schools will be offering this type of service. The more schools that will offer "wrap around" care, the more opportunities there are for Scouting to get involved.

Further information can be gained from:
www.teachernet.gov.uk
www.parentscentre.gov.uk/schoollife
www.childrennow.co.uk/news
www.continyou.org.uk/tesss