

Supporting Adult Volunteer (Mentoring)

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Overview

Once an adult has started working in a Programme Section Team they should be assigned a Mentor. The Mentor for Programme Section Team members will normally be the Programme Section Team Lead; the Mentor for Programme Team Leads will normally be the Group Leader or a Deputy Group Leader. The Section Team Lead may nominate some other suitable person to mentor the adult, for instance if there is a trainer on the Programme Section Team, that person may well be a suitable Mentor. The Programme Section Team Lead should discuss the selection of Mentors with the Group Leader or with someone designated by the Group Leader such as a Deputy Group Leader or experienced Scouter or Trainer.

The Mentor will support the adult by:

- Providing them with support with their training
- Helping them to access other help and information they may need
- Helping them to play an effective role on the team

It is important that each Mentor adopts a suitable approach, one which is respectful, honest and supportive.

Relevance to you

You are ultimately responsible for all Scouters in your Scout Group so it is important that you know who is mentoring whom and that you review how this is going on a regular basis. A periodic meeting of all Mentors in the Scout Group would be a good way to ensure that all Mentors are doing the job and that they are sharing best practice in this regard. It may be useful to link your approach to Mentoring with your approach to Mutual Agreement and Review, perhaps the Mentor would be the person for each Scouter to do their Mutual Agreement and Review with.

Useful Documents and Publications

Information Booklet - Supporting Adult Volunteers (Mentoring)

GL Handbook - 080 Working Together for the Team (Mutual Agreement and Review)

Information Booklet - Working Together for the Team (Mutual Agreement and Review)

Where to get help

The County Commissioner should be your first point of contact, the Group Support Facilitator and the Provincial Support Officer may also be called upon for assistance. You can contact Scouting Ireland's National Office on 01 495 6300 if you require any

advice during normal office hours. You can also use the same number on Monday night's between 7pm and 9pm to contact a member of the National Adult Resources Committee.