



# Unit Code

A Unit Code is a way of expressing how members of our Unit are going to act, what acceptable behaviour is, and how the Unit will operate. Every section should have a Code developed annually by its members. A Unit Code is about:

- ***How we treat each other***
- ***Respecting our environment***
- ***Looking after possessions and property – both ours and everyone else's***

In many ways, it's *how* we live by the Scout Law!

## How to Develop Your Code

### Plan:

- Read through this whole document, make sure you understand all of it.
- Decide how you're going to break up the task and make sure the people involved in facilitating (e.g. the Unit Council) know what they're doing.

### Do:

- Small groups within your Unit (or the whole Unit if it's smaller) meet and discuss the Unit Code. They should cover the key areas that are important to them and draft ideas for inclusion in the whole Unit's Code. You can tailor this step to suit your own Unit, but make sure that everyone has the opportunity to provide input.
- A foundation for the discussion could be based around the Scout Promise and Law. The following words might also assist:



- It may help to think about grouping your thoughts into **'What We Do'** and **'What We Don't Do'**, but remember that it is up to you how you present your Unit Code. Would pictures help? Does your constitution already have a helpful basis you could start from? There are no right or wrong ways to do this!

## Review:

- The Unit Council then comes together to collate all of the teams' feedback. Don't forget, it's hard to follow a document that is too long or hard to remember! Make sure that your Unit Code covers the key areas –
  - **respecting each other,**
  - **building resilience against bullying and harassment,**
  - **the environment,** and
  - **possessions/property.**
- Present the document back to the whole Unit and make sure everyone is happy with what is included and there is a shared understanding of what it means.
- Have everyone, including the Leaders, sign the Code to say that they will live by it.
- Display your Unit Code up in your hall for everyone to see!
- Make sure that when new people (don't forget the Leaders!) join your Unit that someone explains your Unit Code to them.
- Review your Unit Code annually to keep it up to date.

## Stuck?

Check out these resources to start you off, but remember to make your Unit Code your own!

- Examples on the *Breaking the Cycle: Bullying is not a part of Scouting* [website](#),
- Scout Environment Charter
- Bullying resources on the *Breaking the Cycle: Bullying is not part of Scouting* [website](#), [Facebook page](#) and [Scouts in Action Month](#) website
- Leader Code of Conduct (in Policy and Rules)