

# ScotJam 2022

## Participant Safety & Well-Being

The ScotJam team know that young people thrive in safe surroundings, so we are committed to making sure that ScotJam is enjoyable and safe for everyone who takes part.

This document includes the following policies that will apply in addition to normal safe Scouting practise.

- Promoting Positive Behaviour
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Medical & Health Requirements
- Homesickness Policy

In addition, The Scouts have produced a 'Safe and Sound' leaflet which is available to view on The Scouts website - <http://tiny.cc/safesound>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in contact with the ScotJam team – [scotjam@scouts.scot](mailto:scotjam@scouts.scot).

## Promoting Positive Behaviour

We believe that every person has the right to experience ScotJam and all it has to offer. We believe in setting limits and explaining the boundaries for all young people. When these boundaries are tested, we use specific procedures to help the young person to continue their experience at ScotJam.

On the first day of camp our team will go over the expectations and ground rules of camp life. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions about policies and rules, so that everyone is clear about expectations.

Procedures we follow, when a participant displays in-appropriate behaviour:

- The Activity Leader will speak with the young person and check whether the young person understands why the behaviour is unacceptable and knows what the consequences will be.

The Activity Leader will restate the desired behaviour, with clear consequences given for not following the desired behaviour.

If appropriate the first consequence may be a time out which will give the young person time to calm down, reflect on their actions and the Leader a chance to discuss with the young person what happened.

- If the behaviour is repeated, the Activity Leader will let the young person know that this is still unacceptable and will then involve the House Team and/or Camp Leader.

At this stage, House Parent or Camp Leader will contact the parent or carer of the young person to make them aware of the situation and to ask for cooperation and insight.

- If the behaviour persists, the Camp Leader will determine if the young person should remain at ScotJam or be sent home. *Parents will need to make transportation arrangements, and there are no refunds for young people sent home for behavioural reasons.*

There are some actions that may warrant immediate removal from ScotJam. These actions include, but are not limited to, stealing, vandalism or endangering their own safety, the safety of staff or other young people.

This policy attempts to let participants know that while they are cared for, certain behaviours are not acceptable in our camp setting. This policy also involves the parents/ carers before the problems escalates and invites them to be a part of the solution.

At all points during the camp the ScotJam team will adhere to The Scouts *Young People First* code of practice (also known as the Yellow Card), this is available to view on the website - <http://tiny.cc/ypfirst>

## Anti-Bullying Policy

“Children have the right to protection from all forms of violence (physical or mental). They must be kept safe from harm and they must be given proper care by those looking after them.” [*The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, Article 19*]

ScotJam is committed to this ethos and seeks to ensure, as far as is reasonably practicable, the prevention of all forms of bullying among Members.

Since bullying can take on several forms, Physical, Verbal, Social & Cyber, we encourage Participants to report bullying to any adult within the ScotJam team.

Further details are available on the Scout Association website at <http://tiny.cc/SAbully>.

## Medical & Health Requirements

For the sake of all participants, ScotJam & Activity Centre Staff, it is important that your child is healthy when coming to ScotJam. **Please do not bring sick children to ScotJam or put them on the bus.** Should you suspect your young person has Covid-19 please do not bring them to ScotJam.

All participants are required to fill out a Participant Information Form, this will be distributed via email to parents/carers via email and should be completed by Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2022.

If your child requires medication this must be clearly labelled (with participants name, accommodation unit) and handed to your child's House Team or if travelling by bus the leader in charge.

If your child uses an inhaler/epi-pen please make sure they bring spare, as they will be required to always have it with them when participating in activities.

## Parent/Carer Notification

During ScotJam we will contact parents/carers ...

- **When there is communicable illness/disease**

*For example:* Fever; Continual Sore Throat; Repeated Vomiting; Diarrhoea; Spreading Rash; Runny discharge from ears and/or ear pain; Skin Lesions- including scabies, impetigo, pediculosis, and lice infection.

- **For serious injury**

*For example:* Possible broken bones and/or sprains/strains; Head injuries; Lacerations; Burns; Injuries that require additional medical treatment for GP or Hospital visit.

When treating minor injuries (providing first aid) parents/carers are contacted at the discretion of the ScotJam Team.

## Homesickness Policy

Many young people experience homesickness in some way. It is healthy to feel a certain degree of homesickness, because it means that your child is attached to you – this is a very good thing! But we also want our participants to have fun and enjoy the full camp experience. Here are a few things parents/ carers can do to set their children up for success leading up to camp.

### Preparing your Participant for Camp

1. Involve your child in the decision to go to camp, including preparation of gear and packing for camp.
2. Visit the [Scout Adventures Lochgoilhead](#) website and/or the [ScotJam Facebook](#) page. They will give an idea of the activities and pictures of what our camp looks like.
3. If possible, have your child experience an overnight stay away from you, for example a sleep-over at a family members home.
4. We recommend that you don't tell your child they can leave early if they don't like ScotJam as it will set your child up for failure.
5. Have your child attend camp with a friend if you think it might help the transition.
6. Give information to the ScotJam Team beforehand about what works for your child e.g. behaviour triggers and coping methods.
7. Don't linger at camp or drop off point too long this can often add your child's anxiety level.
8. Help your child understand the policy concerning phone calls prior to camp, i.e. *Participants do not make calls home*, so they will not be expecting to hear from you.

### The Policy

1. The first person to handle homesickness is the House Parent, who has the main responsibility of pastoral care for all young people.
  - They will set short-term goals for your child to reach.
  - Every effort will be made to have your child make it through the first night, since that is the most tough time.
2. If parents/carers are to be contacted, the following will be followed:
  - ScotJam Team will call the parents/ carers while the young person is NOT present and fully brief them of the situation.
  - Parents/ Carers are assured that the ScotJam Team will do everything possible to help their child through the situation.
  - Parents/ Carers will be offered the opportunity to talk to their child if they wish.  
The Camp Leader will make arrangements for a suitable time for the participant to call parent/ carer.
  - At this point, the option to take the young person home or leave them at ScotJam remains with the parents/ carers.
  - The parents/ carers should be assured that if the young person is to stay, the ScotJam Team will call back once during the week to inform the parents/ carers how the young person is doing if so requested by the parents/ carers.

3. If the parents/ carers decide to pick up their child, the Camp Leader will make the following arrangements
- Parents/carers will pick up the child at an agreed time & location away from the rest of the young people. Children can be easily influenced by the actions of others and may be tempted to go home if they see a fellow participant/friend leaving early.
  - The parents should sign out their child with Camp Leader/ Admin Team.
  - The young person should be encouraged to try again for next camp (either with own Group or next ScotJam event). Letting them go home is not a punishment, but hopefully leaving them with some positive memories of being here and the belief it will get easier each time.

**Please Note:** No refund will be given to participants going home early with homesickness.