

FSE Code of Behaviour for Children and Young People

FSE/SEC17/CB/019 Issue 3.0

Issue Date: 24th March 2017

THE EUROPEAN SCOUT FEDERATION

(BRITISH ASSOCIATION)

Registered Charity No 272404

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Document Control / supporting information for this document	
FSE Code of Behaviour for Children and Young People	
Document Category	CB – Code of Behaviour
Reference	FSE/SEC17/PP/015
Version No.	3.0
Superseded Documents:	1.0 2.0
Author name and FSE Role	Karen Alsop, Child Protection Coordinator
Approved by	National Leadership
Date ratified	24 th March 2017
Issue Date	24 th March 2017
Review Date	March 2020
Distribution	This document will be available via the Document Suite held in the Members' Area of the FSE website

INTRODUCTION

The European Scout Federation (FSE) is a caring Association, built on a mutual trust and respect for all. It is an aim of the FSE that every member of the association feels valued and respected, and that each person is treated fairly.

This FSE Code of Behaviour for Children and Young People is designed to support the way in which all members of the Association can work and learn together in a supportive way. It aims to promote an environment where everyone, both children and adults, feel happy, safe and secure.

Good behaviour is necessary for effective progress to take place. Children are expected to take responsibility for their actions and make the right choices.

All adults are expected to follow this Code of Behaviour and be consistent in their approach.

DEFINITIONS AND/OR ABBREVIATIONS

FSE / Association	Federation European Scouts (British Association)
Children / young people	Individuals aged under-18
Adult	Any member of the FSE aged 18 or over (Leader, Adult Member, Helper)

LEADERS

Role of Warranted Leader

Our Leaders aim to promote positive behaviour, leading by example and being an effective role model to the children.

Our Leaders will employ a common sense approach when applying the basic principles set out in this document.

The Warranted Leader has a responsibility to:

- ❖ Ensure all children, young people and parents/carers are aware of this Code of Behaviour
- ❖ Deal with any incidents which breach this Code of Behaviour
- ❖ Record any inappropriate behaviour or concerns (See Page 7)
- ❖ Record any communications between themselves and the Parents/Carers (See Page 8)
- ❖ Inform the Parents of any issues if and when required

Role of Group Scout Master

The Group Scout Master will ensure all Leaders understand the correct use of this Code of Behaviour.

The Group Scout Master will also review the effectiveness of this Code of Behaviour, and can propose alternatives where necessary, to the National Committee.

Role of Parents

The parents should support this Code of Behaviour and reinforce its principles.

The parents should work collaboratively with the Leaders of the Group, so the children receive consistent messages on how to behave both at home and in Group meetings.

Basic Principles

This Code of Behaviour for children and young people is intended to:

- Identify acceptable behaviour for children and young people
- Promote self-respect and self-control
- Raise children's and young people's self-esteem and self confidence
- Encourage individual responsibility for behaviour and outline the consequences of poor behaviour
- Encourage children and young people to recognise and respect the rights of others
- Encourage cooperation at all times and in all situations
- Promote the values of honesty, fairness and respect
- Anticipate and resolve any conflict that may arise
- Ensure that children and young people are aware of when sanctions will be put into place

Do's and Don'ts

Children and young people are expected to:

- Cooperate with each other
- Be friendly
- Listen to each other
- Be helpful
- Follow this code of behaviour and other rules
- Have good manners
- Join in
- Respect each other's differences
- Treat Leaders, adult members (18+) and volunteers with respect
- Report anything that worries or concerns them to one of their Leaders

Children and young people shouldn't:

- Pick on or make fun of each other
- Bully each other
- Stare at others
- Yell or shout at others
- Be abusive
- Use equipment to be abusive (e.g. mobile phones to send nasty messages, photos without permission, nasty emails).

Please print these Do's and Don'ts off and ensure they are visible at all times.

BREACH OF THE BASIC PRINCIPLES

Failure to follow the basic principles

This code of conduct is only useful if it forms part of a process for guiding children and young people to receive appropriate support.

It is the responsibility of all Leaders to ensure that all children and young people attending an FSE Section are informed of this Code of Behaviour and to confirm with them that they have seen, understood and agreed to follow it. Children and young people must also be made aware of the consequences if they breach the code.

If a child or young person breaches the code of conduct, for example talking when they should be listening, the most appropriate sanction for a minor or first time breach will be to remind him or her about the code of conduct and ask him or her to comply with it.

Children and young people will be given the opportunity to reflect, enabling them to plan a positive response, with support from Leaders. This means a Leader will sit down with the child or young person and ask for an explanation for their actions and discuss with them alternative actions for the future, for example, tell a Leader.

REPETITIVE FAILURE TO FOLLOW THE BASIC PRINCIPLES

Following the traffic light system

Green Light (Section Leader to speak to child)

If, having followed the above step, the child or young person continues to exhibit inappropriate behaviour, she or he should be referred to the Section Leader who will give her or him a formal, green light warning.

Supportive interventions may need to be identified at this stage. As above the child will be given an opportunity to discuss the inappropriate behaviour with a Leader and agree alternative solutions for the future. The action should also be recorded and parents/carers informed.

Amber Light (Informal discussion with parents/carers)

Any further persistent inappropriate behaviour will result in a more serious sanction being imposed. An informal discussion should take place between the Leader and the parents/carers. This is the amber light warning and should be recorded and kept by the Leader. The GSM should be informed of the discussions.

Again, supportive interventions may need to be identified at this stage as above.

Red Light (Formal discussion with parents/carers)

If these interventions are still not effective in helping the child/young person to change his or her behaviour, a red light warning may be needed, with further sanctions.

It may be that at this point, the GSM will arrange a further meeting with the parents/carers to establish a way forward in the form of external support or in extreme circumstances suspension (or even expulsion) from the Group. (Note: Suspension from the Group's activities/meetings/events should be for a period no longer than two weeks). A formal record of the agreed 'way forward' should be signed by the Section Leader, GSM and parents/carers.

ISOLATED INCIDENTS

The Safety of children and young people is paramount in all situations.

If a child's behaviour endangers the safety of others, or themselves, damaging property or causing serious disruption, the traffic light system would not be used. The Leader in charge will immediately contact the parent/carer to come and collect the child.

Leaders will not use physical measures, but can use reasonable, appropriate restraint if absolutely necessary to prevent injury or harm to the child or others. The Group Scout Master should be informed as soon as is reasonable practicable.

Once the child or young person has been collected by the parent/carer a meeting should be arranged to discuss the incident. This meeting should include the Leaders present during the incident, the Group Scout Master and the parents/carers.

Appropriate measures which may or may not include suspension or expulsion will be determined by the Group Scout Master.

COMPLAINTS

If parents have any concerns about the way their child is being treated, they should initially contact the Section Leader.

If concern remains they should contact the Group Scout Master

If concern remains they should contact the Province Commissioner

If concern remains they should contact the National Committee

If a disagreement still stands, then an appeal will be made and the final decision will lie with the National Commissioner

A table similar to below should be displayed

Name	Position within organisation	Contact Number	Email
	Section Leader		
	Group Scout Master		
	Province Commissioner		
	National Committee Member		
	National Commissioner		

Record any inappropriate behaviour or concerns

Time and Date:	
Location:	
Child/Young Person Name:	
Leader Name:	
Details of Behaviour:	
Action Taken:	
Reported to (if applicable):	

Record any communications between themselves and the Parents/guardians

Time and Date:	
Location:	
Leader Name:	
Parent(s) name:	
Details of Communication:	
Actions to be Taken:	
Reported to (if applicable):	