



Help us keep our movement going. It's never been so important for our young people.

Dear parents and carers,

These are challenging and uncertain times for us all.

While we aren't meeting face to face (to keep everyone safe) it's more important than ever to make sure that we can continue into the future.

Help us meet our essential costs.

Unfortunately, we still have fixed costs, which we have to pay, whether we're meeting face to face or not. To help us cover these, **we're asking if all parents and carers could continue to pay their monthly subscriptions** of £8 for the first child, and £6 for all other children in a family. This will help cover our essential costs over the next few months. It will mean that we can still be here ready to welcome your children back when the crisis passes. It also means that for those that can't afford to contribute as a result of the current crisis, can be supported by us all.

We know that some families are facing significant financial challenges at the moment. **If you are in a difficult position, please let us know** as we do not wish to cause any further financial hardship, including sending out reminders for unpaid balances. We understand it is not easy to talk about money, particularly when things are very tight, but please do let us know – this information will be kept private and confidential.

Some people do have outstanding balances and we would encourage families to pay these if they are in a position to. If you are unsure if you have a balance, then please get in touch and we will be more than happy to discuss. Again, we know that some families are facing significant financial challenges so do let us know if this is the case so that we don't add to your stresses at this unpredictable time.

Our fixed costs include our rent, utilities, insurance, fixed contribution to district campsite and costs incurred at a national level (covering vital services such as insurance and safeguarding support). All of these still need to be paid.

As you'll know we are a local charity, run by unpaid volunteers, as well as being part of a national membership organisation. We rely on income from parents and carers to keep operating. By supporting us financially now, we can make sure our Scout Group is still here for your child when these challenging times have passed.

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How to make your contribution.

You can pay in any of the following ways:

- Through a PayPal monthly subscription, or one-off payments. This is our preferred method. Details for how to do this are at the end of this letter.
- Payments into our bank account – Please ask if you would like details

Whilst ever we can't meet in person, we are unable to take card or cash payments

Why your support matters.

The Scout movement is so important to your child and to our community. Our Group is entirely run by unpaid volunteers, and by supporting each other during this challenging time, we can make sure we can continue in your area to support your child and future members. Our programme of fun, adventure and #SkillsForLife help shape individuals to have the tools for whatever they may face in the future.

Help for you at home.

To support you and your child at home to continue learning skills, take a look at:

- 186sheffield.org.uk/activities-at-home/ – Our Activities at Home section has lots of different activities everyone can join in with
- facebook.com/groups/186sheffield - Our private Facebook group for parents and carers of members where you will find details of our virtual meetings, activities that can be done at home, what other members have been up to and much more
- Our **virtual meetings** – each Monday we will host virtual meetings for Hedgehogs, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts to come together, share what they have been up to, have opportunities to interact with other members, learn skills and take part in activities that are linked to badges that can be earned whilst at home. The meetings are secure and only accessible by members with the correct link and password. They can be accessed through a mobile phone, tablet, computer or by phoning into the meeting. Access details and programme are found on our private Facebook group, but if you don't use Facebook, let us know and we will get the details to you in an alternative format
- scouts.org.uk/the-great-indoors - A collection of over 100 fun activities to help them have fun and keep learning

Your help at this time is so important in keeping Scouting going for our members and future members.

Yours,

Ashley Horsley
Group Scout Leader

Craig Judson
Assistant Group Scout Leader

Laura Lambert
Group Chair

Making payments through PayPal

Please visit subs.186sheffield.org.uk where you will find full details on how to set up payments via PayPal

Don't have PayPal? PayPal can be set up quickly and easily by following our link. Alternatively, we can provide bank details to set up a standing order or payments