



# Educational Trails

Prepared by  
The National Youth Programme Committee  
Scouting Ireland  
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Scouting Ireland  
is built on a shared respect for the uniqueness  
of young people.

We believe in the abilities of young people  
and their wish to discover and harness their  
own potential.

We help them achieve this by providing them  
with the support and encouragement they  
need.

*"We accept each young person as he or she is – a unique human being  
with his or her own personal background and experience of life thus far,  
variations in needs, capacities, interests and pace of development."*

*'Scouting: An Educational System' WOSM 1998*



This document has been produced by the National Youth Programme Committee of Scouting Ireland, with the assistance of the Programme Review Team. We used the methodology outlined in the *Renewed Approach to Programme* document as devised by the World Organisation of Scout Movements. The Educational Trails have been developed in respect of each of the areas of personal growth outlined in the aim of the Association, building on the Educational Proposal. To inform our work, we made use of surveys completed by young members of the association, young people not involved in Scouting, adult members of the association and other stakeholders including parents, teachers and community representatives.

## Character

*Accepting myself and recognising my own potential for growth and what it is I can become. Developing myself in a manner consistent with a set of values and with mutual respect and understanding for others.*

### 1. Commitment/Principles

- To appreciate right from wrong and understand the importance of our actions
- Commitment to a set of values and beliefs
- Believe in myself, accept outcomes of actions & learn the true value and importance of all things

### 2. Practice

- To be a good citizen, and take responsibility
- Strive to fulfill your own potential
- Set personal goals

### 3. Development

- Imagination, Ideas & Creativity
- Understanding of ways and means of learning

## Physical

*Understanding my body and my physical capabilities, while developing skills through appropriate physical challenges.*

### 1. Understanding/knowledge

- Assess our capabilities
- Appreciate the different abilities of others

### 2. Develop/Challenge/grow/learn

- Explore new challenges
- Experience adventure safely
- Develop new skills
- Practice what you learn
- Re-assess our capabilities
- Consolidation

### 3. Taking care of ones self

- Understanding Diet & Lifestyle
- Health & Hygiene
- Exercise & Activities

## Emotional

*Having the confidence and security to be aware of and express my emotions, and to understand and accept them. Learning how to deal with situations and people I meet everyday while having respect for other people's emotions and being aware of the impact of my actions.*

### 1. Own Emotions

- Learning to understand emotions
- Being comfortable with your emotions
- Learning how to express yourself
- Support in dealing with emotions

### 2. Others

- Learning to deal with people
- Empathy & Understanding
- Support & care for others
- To develop mutual respect and trust
- Scout Spirit

### 3. Practical Abilities

- Dealing with situations
- Building self esteem – (Internal belief)
- Experiencing a sense of achievement
- Recognising ones unique value and potential for growth

## Intellectual

*Having the ability to create ideas, leading to a plan of action and carrying it through to its conclusion using common sense. Being able to plan and analyse and take on board the consequences of my actions. Having the ability to understand how a team works, and my role within it. Having the ability to evaluate a situation and follow instructions as appropriate.*

### 1. Practical Abilities

- Analyse the information, match it to needs and wants
- Problem solving
- Memory
- Commitment
- Experimentation

### 2. Planning

- Gathering information to lead to a plan
- Organise the information into a plan
- Set realistic targets
- Put plan into action
- Assessment, evaluation, critical analysis
- Formulate next plan/targets

### 3. Teamwork/Leadership

- Working in teams
- Self-governance
- Leadership
- Follow instruction
- Communicate

## Social

*Having a sense of belonging in a group, through friendship and interaction. Developing an understanding of social issues in my communities, and recognising my responsibility to appreciate cultural diversities. Having fun.*

### 1. Interaction with People

- Value of relationships
- Opportunity to develop communication and listening skills
- Learning to cooperate
- Balance between work and FUN
- Opportunity to meet new people – new friends
- To develop appropriate friendships and relationships

### 2. Cultural appreciation

- Learning about own & other cultures
- Appreciation of cultural diversities
- Traditions (beliefs)

### 3. Community & Society

- Opportunity for community involvement
- Sense of social equality – gender and sexuality
- Take responsibility – self/community/others
- Respecting others (beliefs)
- Know and abide by the law of the land
- Learn from a role model point of view, the importance of what you do
- Global/national/international – brother & sister scout
- Opportunity for community involvement

## Spiritual

*Having an understanding and acceptance of myself and my value as a unique human being, and an equal acceptance of the value of others. Having respect for myself and others and the world in which we live. Having a sense of responsibility for my environment and my place in it. Develop a personal awareness of a higher being and an expression and exploration of a faith.*

### 1. Exploration

- To come to an understanding of your personal spirituality
- Create an environment and atmosphere where you can explore spirituality
- Encourage reflection, leading to spiritual activity or an experience
- Allow an atmosphere for discussion and exploration of faith to take place

### 2. Practice

- Expression of faith
- Learn to respect others' ideals and beliefs
- To develop and encourage an appreciation of nature and your surroundings