



Kama Scout Group

Parent Helper Guidelines

The word "scout" is used generically. It means "Joey" "Cub" "Scout" or "Venturer" as appropriate.

Introduction

Thank you for volunteering to be a Parent Helper (also called Adult Helper) for a Kama Scout Group activity. The success of the program depends on volunteers, and would not be possible without them. "Activities" include scouting activities organised by a uniformed Leader and fundraising activities organized by a committee member. These guidelines apply to both types of activities.

Our commitment to you – from the Leaders/Committee member

- We commit to keep you informed of the plan, our expectations of your participation and any changes to the plan as they occur.
- We will not expect you to do anything you do not wish to do.
- Your involvement is negotiable with the Leader/Committee member in charge.
- We commit to reimbursing you for agreed costs promptly.

Your commitment to us

- Your commitment as a Parent Helper at a scouting activity is to the activity and NOT to your child. In organising the activity, adult/youth ratios are considered when mitigating risk, and it is essential ALL adults are committed to ALL youth.
- Be prepared to be given set tasks by the Leader/Committee member in charge.
- Be prepared to apply for a Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP) card and carry this card on your person at all times during the activity.
- During the activity, if you wish to do something "special" for your child, please be prepared to do that "special" thing for ALL youth members. "Special" things may include (but not be limited to):
 - Helping your child set up tent and unpack their bag.
 - Carrying your child's bag or belongings.
 - Purchasing your child a treat (lollies/hot drink/memorabilia etc). If the activity packing list includes cash to allow the Scouts to purchase such items, then ensure your scout has their own money to do this.
- Be aware if you hug/embrace/comfort your child at an activity, there may be other youth who are also missing home, so you may be contributing to their discomfort.
- Please ensure that your gear and your scout's gear (including toiletries) are packed separately to ensure your scout has independence while at the activity.
- If your child approaches you with a problem/concern about the activity then please direct them to the Committee member/Leader in charge (or their Patrol Leader if they are in the Scout Section) for resolution.
- For Scouts and Venturers, do not expect your child will travel in your car if you are assisting with transport. You may be asked to provide proof of your license and car registration and insurance details prior to the activity.
- It is a Scouts Australia policy that no adult should ever be alone with one scout. This includes car travel and tents. Adult Helpers and Leaders should not enter scout tents under any circumstances.
- It is a Scout Australia policy that Adult Helpers can not participate in an overnight scouting activity without a WWVP card.
- Please discuss and explain your commitment to the activity with your child at home before the event so that they understand your role.

Trust that the Scout training that your child has received is sufficient to get them through the activity, and that the Leaders will assist all youth members, as they are trained to do. Your scout is capable of more than you know, and will learn through their own errors in the safe scouting environment if you let them.