



13/21 Scout Group

**Cub Camp -
What every parent wants to know.**

All Cub camps are held locally on Scout run Camp Sites and all within the Watford Area. You will be asked to deliver and pick up your cub at specific times. Besides the Cubs, the Scouts may also be camping on site and the Beavers may join us for the day.

The Camps

We run three camps a year.



Spring Camp

This is held at the Well End Centre on the weekend after Easter. It has in-door bunk bed accommodation. It sleeps 26 Cubs plus leaders. Very often the requirements of a Cub Badge form the theme of the Camp. We do get the cubs out in the fresh air whenever we can and on Sunday use the activities on site. These are a climbing wall, archery and rifle shooting and occasionally BMX biking.

Summer Camp

This is also held at Well End Centre on the weekend after August Bank Holiday. We sleep in tents but have a building on site to do the cooking and use as a meeting place if the weather is wet. Cubs may book to come for the weekend or either for Friday or Saturday night, so this camp is ideal for first time campers if you are worried that they won't last the weekend. If you are really

worried it is also possible to come just for Saturday, however we do not advertise this possibility and if you want to take it up you would need to speak to Ian McLuckie directly. This is our most flexible camp in terms of when Cubs may attend and we do not offer these variations in either of the other camps.

Cool Camp

This camp is held late October or early November and is not held at Well End but on one of the other Scout sites, the venue may vary from year to year. This is also an indoor camp. We have been several times to Lees Wood and this has a well liked Adventure Playground.

Food at Camp



Just joking!!

Leaders do the cooking and Cubs do the washing up.

There is plenty of food and drinks at camp and there is absolutely no need to send extra.

We assume Cubs will have had tea before coming to camp and there is no 'big meal' on Friday night. All meals include a vegetarian option.

Typical menu would be:

Friday night

Hot dogs and soup, biscuits and crisps. Later some hot chocolate.

Saturday Breakfast.

Cereal, cooked breakfast, bread, orange juice and squash.

Mid morning

Squash and biscuits.

Lunch

Pizza, raw vegetables, burger, salad plus fruit and squash.

Mid afternoon

Kick-a-boo (don't ask! – it's revolting but the cubs like it)

Dinner

A cooked meal including mince, pasta, rice, potatoes, fresh vegetables, pudding, fruit and squash.

If Scouts or Beavers are on site they normally join the cubs for a sit down meal.

Supper

Hot drink, squash and biscuits.

Sunday breakfast.

Cereal, hard boiled egg, hot cross bun, bread, orange juice and squash.

Mid morning

Squash and biscuits, or more kick-a-boo.

Lunch

A variety of sandwiches, salad and fruit, squash and anything left over.

They will not have had a proper Sunday meal when they return to you.

If your child has particular food allergies please let Ian McLuckie know when you return your consent form. We encourage cubs to eat but also appreciate that not everyone likes everything. No one is forced to sit and finish a meal. When necessary we do arrange alternatives like sandwiches. If they refuse to eat anything at all then we will contact you and ask your advice. Occasionally this happens because of home-sickness.

Cubs must not bring food, drinks or sweets to camp. Food can easily go off or create a mess and if stored in a tent can encourage ants, squirrels and other undesirable animals.

What to wear and what to bring

The Cubs must wear uniform to Camp and will be in uniform at the end for you to take them home. While at Camp they can more or less wear what they like. You will be sent a list of suggested items to bring to camp as well as a list of those things they cannot bring.

Bear in mind that clothing sent to camp is never the same again. We try to get them to give us wet clothes to hang up to dry, but they still manage to end up screwed up wet in their kit bags. If you expect everything to come back dirty, muddy and virtually unusable you will not normally be disappointed. It is therefore madness to buy anything new for camp unless you really really have to. Make do with what you have is the better option.

It is a really good idea to label everything with your Cub's name. We try hard to keep property and Cubs united, but we are not always successful.

Health Matters

If your Cub is undergoing any medical treatment, or needs particular things to happen regularly, please let a Leader know. You can discuss any potential worries or problems with one of the Cub Leaders. Also please hand in any medicine they need to a Leader and we will ensure they fulfil the requirements.

To Wash or not to wash.

Believe it or not we do send Cubs to have a wash in the morning and evening and before meals and they are supervised in doing so. It's surprising how many Cubs claim their parents have forgotten soap, towel etc. We do sometimes send them back to look for kit and occasionally they do find it. Don't be surprised however if that nice clean unused tube of toothpaste comes back in exactly the same condition.

They are offered the opportunity to have a shower in the morning and some cubs do take up the offer! However they will not be made to shower at this stage.

There are some occasions when they are told to shower and this is for health reasons. Some Cubs for example regularly 'accidentally' fall into stagnant water in the woods, or sometimes we might do a really mucky activity. In these types of cases they will be told to shower. If they refuse we would contact you to take them home.

To sleep or not to sleep

Cubs are sent to bed quite late on Friday night and after a period of free activity are made to be quiet. This is enough for most of them to sleep soon, although not all will have a good night's sleep on the first night. Most will wake quite early on Saturday morning although, for safety's sake, they are not allowed to leave their tent or bunk accommodation until told to.

There is never much resistance going to sleep Saturday night, and if they have been to camp for the weekend it is impossible for them to stay awake. They

will also sleep much later and some will need waking in the morning. Any tales of bravado that they stayed awake all weekend is just that – tales!

Contact during Camp

You will be advised of a 'home contact' who is an experienced Leader who is not at Camp. They will pass any messages or queries to the Camp Leader.

Likewise if we have to contact you, it will be through the same 'Home Contact'.

Cubs are not allowed to bring a mobile phone to Camp.

Discipline at Camp

We try to operate with as few rules as possible, however we do insist on politeness, good manners, remaining seated at mealtimes and being friendly towards other Cubs. Some activities at camp can be adventurous and so we always insist that they listen when they are being told what to do for different activities.

If they are continuously disruptive you will be asked to come and take them home.

Pocket money at Camp

Most camp sites have a shop selling sweets, drinks and souvenirs. You do not need to send any money with your Cub as pocket money is included in the camp fee. They will have 2 opportunities to spend their money: after the evening meal on Saturday and during Sunday morning.

'Kit Inspection'

There are two kit inspections during Camp. This may seem a bit regimented but there is a reason for both.

On Saturday morning inspection involves taking everything out of their kit bag and laying it out neatly on their beds. Most Cubs have absolutely no idea what you have sent with them so this gives them a chance to see all the changes of clothes there are. It also helps spot missing washing items.

On Sunday morning inspection is about finding their uniform and putting everything else away in their bags. We try hard to get all of them home with their own kit and this inspection helps us find any lost kit. It also gives Leaders practice in putting sleeping bags into very small holders. After this inspection their kit should be all ready to take home and their uniform at hand to change into.

Anything else???

If there is anything else you would like to know about Camp please don't hesitate to phone one of the Leaders or ask us after a Pack Meeting.

Dave Byrne
Cub Leader.