Hertfordshire Explorer Belt 2026 Training camp

Participants and parents/carers pack

Rickmansworth & Chorleywood District Scout Campsite, 02/05/2026 - 03/05/2026

Dear Explorer Belt 2026 participants, parents and carers,
We are very much looking forward to our Explorer Belt adventure this summer. The information we have provided here collates everything you need to know about the forthcoming training camp on 02/05/2026 – 03/05/2026. The training camp is the opportunity for participants to test kit, abilities and teamwork.

If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know on international@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk

Information on OSM

Please make sure that you have checked the information on OSM (Online Scout Manager), particularly the medical information and emergency contacts. We are relying on this to look after your young person and get in touch or in case of an emergency.

WhatsApp groups

We will use the existing WhatsApp groups to communicate with the teams and may also give parents some updates throughout the weekend.

Overview of the program

Please see below the program for the training camp. The elements that are linking directly to the Explorer Belt requirements and that will be covered during this camp are:

- Navigation skills
- Expedition cooking
- Lightweight camping
- Fitness
- Proficiency in mode of travel
- Team building
- First Aid

Saturday 2nd May

8:00 am	Teams and leaders meet at Westminster Lodge Leisure centre in Verulamium Park, St Albans, https://what3words.com/spicy.backed.just Participants arrive with kit that they are expecting to take to the Explorer Belt expedition. • Bring along packed lunch, snacks and water (2l recommended) as required**. Absolutely nothing containing nuts please.**

	• Receive maps of scale 1:25000 that contain the area between Watford junction and the camp site • Receive check points to cover during the hike • Receive tasks to complete during the hike • Receive international necker – **please bring your own woggle** • Discuss the routes for teams with leaders and discuss the risks identified • Receive funds into Explorer Belt 2026 Jar, the budget for the camp transport and dinner (leaders will purchase breakfast items)
9:08 am	Both teams take train to Watford junction
9:25 am	Arrive at Watford junction and begin the hike. Teams will take different routes to the camp site. During the journey, teams need to complete tasks given, plan the meal they are cooking for dinner, bearing in mind the budget given and include catering for 1 leader if they have received the task. The teams need to plan a place to go shopping and carry this to the camp site.
9:25 am – 15:00	Leaders will take equipment to camp site and check in with/remotely supervise teams as they travel along their chosen route. Leaders will purchase breakfast items.
Ca 15:00 pm	Leaders welcome teams at camp site
15:00 – 17:00 pm	Set up camp in teams and down time
17:00 – 18:30 pm	Teams cook dinner and clean up
18:30 – 19:30 pm	First aid training by external First Aid trainer
19:30 – 21:00 pm	Down time & paracord activity
21:00 – 22:15 pm	Fire pit
22:30 pm	Lights out

Sunday 3rd May

7:00 am – 8:00	Wake up and breakfast, clean up
8:00 – 10:00 am	Service project around camp site, task list provided by camp site warden - Agreement which tasks are to be completed by which teams - Safety briefing for tool use relevant to tasks
10:00– 11:30 am	Briefing on Explorer Belt, finalising of details until departure
11:03 – 12:30 am	Strike camp
12:30	Parent pick up

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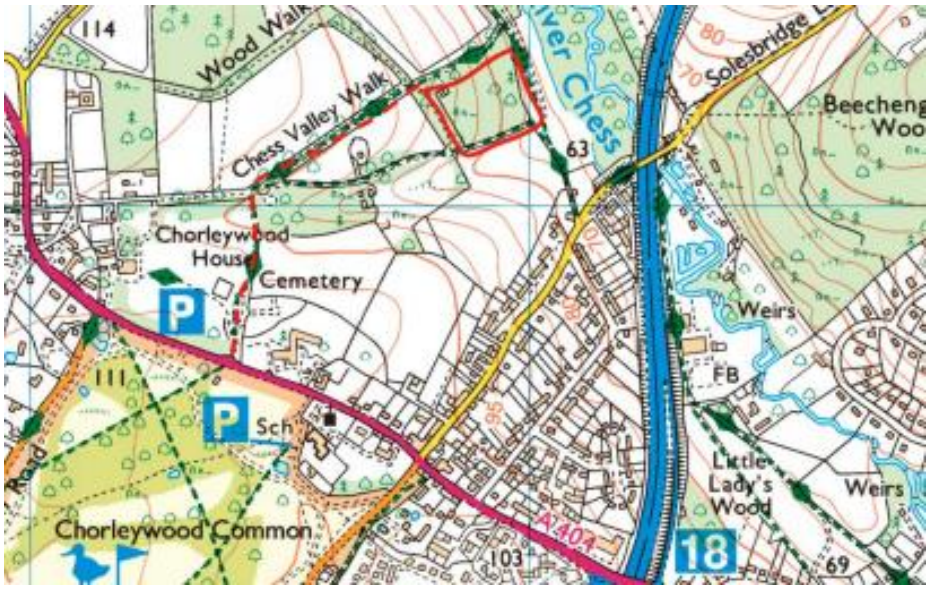
Participants and parents/carers pack

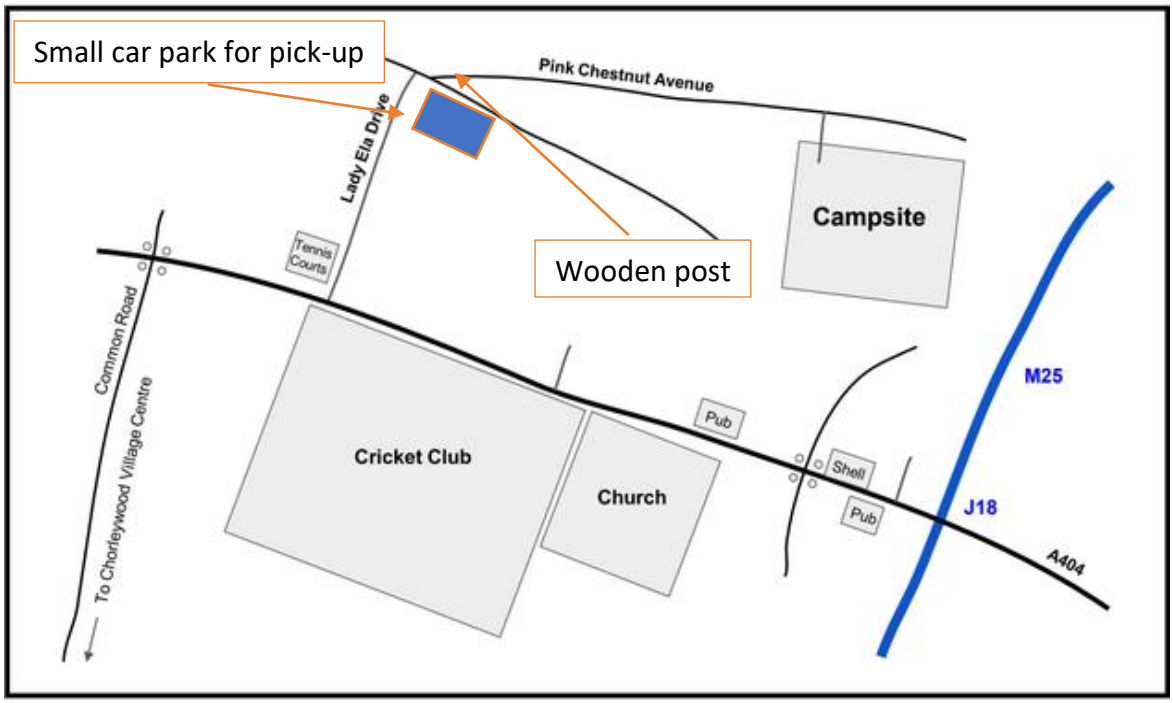
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Transport arrangements

Participants will need to arrive at Westminster lodge, no uniform required. They will take the train to Watford Junction.

The pickup location on Sunday is in Chorleywood near the camp site. The entrance to the road is opposite the Cricket Pavilion (on left when coming from motorway). There is a small car park by a fork in the paths, one path is blocked by wooden post. This is the footpath to the camp site





Menu

The participants will be cooking during the camp and teams may also cater for a leader if tasked to do so. Participants will cook dinner they are buying during their hike (using Trangias). We will have a kitchen set up and participants can cook breakfast in the kitchen (breakfast items provided by leaders). Hot drinks (Coffee, tea, hot chocolate) will be available throughout the camp.

Breakfast on Sunday will likely be sausage, bacon rolls and baked beans, tea/coffee/hot chocolate, maybe cakes/pastries.

Participants will need to bring a basic mess kit (plate/bowl, mug suitable for hot drinks, cutlery & **tea towel**). We will have washing-up equipment on site, but we encourage teams to provide this in their team equipment like they would on Explorer Belt.

We will rely on details of any allergies or dietary requirements from Online Scout Manager - if these have changed, please inform a leader ASAP and ensure that Online Scout Manager is updated.

In Case of Emergency

Please ensure OSM is up to date with contact details and emergency contact details. Also, check and double check allergy and medical information please - this is what we will be using for our information for camp and so it is essential that it is up to date and correct.

Additionally, please ensure that you or your emergency contact in OSM is always available during the camp in case we need to contact them.

If you have a home emergency and need to get in contact with your participant, please do this through one of the leaders. We will have phones on us at all times, but we might be in poor signal areas or unable to answer instantly - please bear with us and try again. We can make necessary arrangements with your ´participant in such a way that will cause minimal stress to them and to the group.

If there is an emergency on camp, we will follow the Scout's InTouch procedure with a dedicated adult off site. This person will coordinate the communications for the leaders on site where relevant so that they are not distracted with unnecessary calls. This leaves the site team to focus on dealing with the situation on site.

What to Bring

Participants, please check the kit list provided to you – it is a suggested list, all participants have experience of expeditions and camps and will be competent to make their own choices. Please do not forget to coordinate team kit as required, particularly your group first

aid kit – consider meeting up before the camp to refine your Explorer Belt plans and coordinate group kit.

Mobile phones

We are relying on participants to bring and use their mobile phones for relevant communication and research. However, we expect phone use to be minimal whilst on the camp site. Please note that there will not be an opportunity to charge any devices on site.

Behaviour / Site Rules

Standard of behaviour

- Participants should act with manners and pay respect to other participants, leaders and adult helpers
- Remember your team's code of conduct – review it before the camp.
- At times where behaviour is unacceptable, methods will be employed by following the 4 staged approach below. Some examples of unwanted / unacceptable behaviour:
    - Bullying including physical violence / verbal abuse of any kind
    - Disrespect, answering back to leaders or adult helpers
    - Inability to follow instructions given by an instructor, leader, adult helper
    - Talking whilst another person is talking
    - Disregarding instructions which could result in personal harm to themselves or others
    - Deliberately damage property belonging to the Group or another person etc.

1. Informal stage:

- Young person is informed their behaviour, attitude or response to others is unacceptable. This can be done by a leader or adult helper.
- Young person is given an opportunity to improve unwanted behaviour.

2. Yellow card procedure

- Yellow Card issued = 1st warning

3. Red card procedure

- Red Card issued = 2nd warning
- Some behaviour will warrant a straight red card which physical violence is one

4. Dismissal

- It may become necessary to dismiss the young person if, despite above procedure and help and support from the leadership team, fails to reach an acceptable level of behaviour.

- The leader will inform the parent to come and collect the participants.

Alcohol

The Hertfordshire Explorer Belt 2026 policy on the consumption of alcohol is based on The Scout Association's policy on Alcohol. Alcohol must not be consumed by either adults or young people at any point during the camp.

FAQ

Will it be completely dark?

This is a basic camp site away from buildings and there will be little light around. We will provide some lanterns, particularly for First Aid, but please bring your own torches

What about toilets?

There are toilets on site.

What about washing facilities?

There are basic facilities on site.

Do all the adults have DBS checks?

Yes, all leaders or adult helpers have passed and hold current Scouting DBS checks.

What about medication?

Please ensure that OSM is up to date and please inform us of any medication that your participant may have to take on a regular basis. Medication must be labelled with the participant's name.

Should participants take their own money?

The participants won't need any money, and they will be provided with a payment method with the budget for this weekend. It will be team's responsibility to buy food within the budget –they choose how much money to spend on food and other items during their journey.

Does everything need labelling?

Yes please, it helps. Even things like sleeping bag covers and straps. We also would expect the participant to pack, so they know what they've got with them and where it is.

If you are thinking about buying some name stickers, one of the leader's Explorer unit, Riverside ESU in St Albans, are fundraising via an affiliate link with https://www.stikins.co.uk. These are very good labels (used during World Scout Jamboree in Korea) and come in very useful. If you would like to order some anyway or know the

product, please **enter the fundraising number 36431** in your order and Riverside ESU will get 30% off your order value for their Explorer Unit fundraising.

Down time

Optional: book, cards, small quiet games, pen, small notebook

What NOT to bring

- Electronic devices (other than phones, such as Nintendo Switch etc)
- Pen knives/knives
- Trolley bags/suitcases

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Summary

Event:	Explorer Belt 2026 Training camp	**Date**:	Saturday 2nd – Sunday 3rd May 2026
Camp Site Location:	Rickmansworth & Chorleywood District Scout Campsite Pink Chestnut Avenue, Off of Lady Ela Drive Chorleywood House Estate, Rickmansworth Road Chorleywood, Herts, WD3 5SL		
Meeting place and time:	Westminster Lodge Leisure centre in Verulamium park, https://what3words.com/spicy.backed.just **Saturday 02nd May 2026, 8:00 am**		
Collection place and time:	Car park near camp site https://w3w.co/shapes.trend.bridge **Sunday, 3rd May 2026, 12:30 pm**		
Deposit Cost / Full Cost	Ca £15, part of the cost of the Explorer Belt, paid for and covered by budget		
Transport details:	Participants to travel by train and on foot to site. Pick up at collection point (see above)		
Wear / Bring:	Explorer Belt kit, suitable clothing depending on weather conditions. See kit list provided for suggestions		
Activity details:	Hiking/Service project		
Organiser and contact details:	Christoph – 07913377868 Skip – 07879 603256		
Contact details during the event:	**InTouch** contact Malachi O'Byrne- 07526506793 (in case of emergency only).		

Kit list

Notes

This is an overnight camp with a hike. Participants will need to carry all of their kit for the hike part of the camp. If you have bought a new rucksack or other kit, make yourself familiar with it. Participants should pack the rucksack themselves, so they know where everything is. It is a good idea to use dry backs to separate gear and keep it dry in case of rain. Alternatively, strong rubble sacks also do a good job.

If participants have got new shoes/boots, they need to be worn in before the weekend and the expedition!

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Required personal items

- ❑ Rucksack and daysack
- ❑ 1 x pair of sturdy shoes or walking boots, broken in
- ❑ Sleeping bag, 2-3 season should be sufficient
- ❑ Check with accommodation chosen, sleeping bag liner may be required for some
- ❑ Lightweight sleeping mat/roll mat
- ❑ Wash kit - Tooth brush, toothpaste, comb/brush, soap, personal hygiene products
- ❑ Towel – quick dry sport towels are best for space and weight
- ❑ Uniform – we travel in uniform and there may be formal occasions when meeting other Scouts
- ❑ Sleepwear, consider weight and temperatures
- ❑ Underwear & socks – consider weight, you will need to wash along the way
- ❑ Trousers – long and short
- ❑ Hat
- ❑ Spare footwear (sandals/lightweight trainers)
- ❑ Water bottle – wide mouth makes it easier to fill
- ❑ Electrical adaptors/battery packs (ensure you stay within airline regulations)
- ❑ Torch and headtorch, spare batteries or rechargeable
- ❑ Spare glasses if you wear glasses
- ❑ Sun cream
- ❑ Sunglasses
- ❑ Mess kit, unbreakable cup
- ❑ String
- ❑ Toilet roll (not full roll, emergency use)
- ❑ Compass
- ❑ Shopping bags
- ❑ Base layers (top & leggings) - As appropriate for the camp/weather
- ❑ T-shirt/long sleeve T-shirt - (NOT cotton) Technical/wicking material
- ❑ 1 - Fleece tops
- ❑ Jacket/Coat - Waterproof/windproof/breathable
- ❑ Outerwear trousers (preferable waterproof/breathable for greater comfort)

On person (no sharp objects or liquids on fights)

- ❑ Scout Uniform (shirt and scarf)
- ❑ Passport
- ❑ Payment card
- ❑ Phone
- ❑ Watch

Personal first aid kit suggestions

- ❑ Travel sickness medication
- ❑ Insect repellent
- ❑ Painkillers
- ❑ Immodium
- ❑ Personal medication
- ❑ Needle & thread
- ❑ Safety pins
- ❑ Baby wipes

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Shared equipment

- ❑ Tents
- ❑ Trangias
- ❑ Maps
- ❑ Hand sanitiser
- ❑ Matches
- ❑ Team first aid kit
- ❑ Washing up liquid and sponge

Team first aid kit

- ❑ Firs Aid in an Emergency Booklet or phone app
- ❑ Large Dressings
- ❑ Medium Dressings
- ❑ Disposable triangular bandage
- ❑ Safety pins
- ❑ Eye pad
- ❑ Wash-proof plasters
- ❑ Non- stick dressing
- ❑ Wound closure strips
- ❑ Sterile cleaning wipes
- ❑ Microporous tape
- ❑ Zink oxide tape
- ❑ Sterile Gloves
- ❑ Heat retaining foil blanket
- ❑ Burn shield dressing
- ❑ Tuff-cut scissors
- ❑ Tweezers
- ❑ Bandages, 7-5cm x 4.5m