

# Including Scouting in your Personal Statement and CV



For some of us, the time has come to write our CV's when applying for jobs or begin to create our UCAS application and starting to write our personal statement.

This can be a stressful process and often we forget the skills we already have further than our GCSE's, A-Level's or college qualifications. Your Scouting experiences have shaped you a lot more than you may realise and can give you that edge over other candidates when applying for work or university. This resource should provide you with testimonials from some of your fellow Scouting members who have included Scouting in their CV and or personal statement and the benefits it brought them as well as snippets of example CVs and personal statements they have made to help you out.

The handy links below will provide you with some top tips on what you could include in your CV and personal statement so make sure to check them out before beginning to write your CV or personal statement.

Check this link out to see a whole range of possible skills you could mention!

<https://bit.ly/3217Zcf>

Check this link out to see how you can include DofE in your CV or personal statement!

<https://bit.ly/3kpqh81>

# Including Scouting in your Personal Statement and CV

## Now let's hear why it is important to include Scouting in your Personal Statement and CV.

"My top awards were the standout feature when I was in my interview for my first job (they were basically all I spoke about in interviews as they had given me so much experience and skill). Yes, they knew what DofE was and thought that was jolly good, but being able to say that I had completed my QSA (Queen's Scout Award) also, gave me more to talk about – it's the things you do as part of the award, not the actual award itself. It's the soft skills like teamwork, managing your time and resourcefulness, etc. that you can really shout about. In my opinion – these skills give people the edge, particularly in entry-level / graduate positions where life experience is limited.

Talking to my Explorers in the past, some of them have said how they feel that the people that go to a World Scout Jamboree get all the opportunities and those that don't, do not have anything to talk about from Scouts – I'm hoping this resource will help them to realise that even just by lighting a fire in the rain, they are a more desirable person (resilience, teamwork, etc.)!"

- Adam Ray



"I am a secondary school Science and PE teacher and currently hold a position as Lead in PE and engagement activities. The extra responsibilities were offered because of my involvement within scouting and my keenness to pass on the skills and experiences that helped me along the way.

When I applied for my first job in education, I was able to link my strengths, skills and experiences to the job specification. Whilst working towards gaining my Queen's Scout Award and then my Wood Badge as a leader, I have gained qualities and learned key skills such as leadership, organisation, resilience, initiative and good communication. These are what employers look for in an applicant.

I remember my first interview well, as my future employers seemed more interested in my voluntary work and Scouting experiences than my qualifications. This was brilliant because I could talk for hours and in detail about my great passions.

Without the extra life experience, my CV would have looked modest and I may have found employment harder to come by, more importantly, I believe that living day to day by the simple rules of the Scout law and promise has given my life more meaning and fulfilment."

- Shem Horsefield



# Including Scouting in your Personal Statement and CV

“When applying for student leadership roles within my school I made sure to mention Scouting, more specifically, my experience of fundraising for the World Scout Jamboree and how I was able to organise events, lead a team, amongst other skills that could transfer into my student leadership role.

When applying for university, my school (teachers) took from this and included my Scouting history within my references, so I didn't mention Scouting in my personal statement as I felt the subject had already been covered. From what my teachers had included in my references was enough for my interviewer to bring it up in my interview for university, to then allow me to talk passionately about all my opportunities in Scouting further than the World Scout Jamboree.”

- Catherine-Jane Cornish

## How could you include Scouting in your personal statement and CV?

(Remember to check out examples on the [DofE website](#) or via the links on page one!)

This example could be included in either your personal statement or in the hobbies section of your CV...

“I'm a highly motivated, organised individual. I spend my free time at Scouts and recently I have completed my Queen's Scout Award, the top award for under 25s. As part of the QSA, I completed my Gold DofE, working with a range of different people, driving my personal success as well as contributing to that of the team. I needed to organise a series of activities for a group of Beavers (our 6-8's) as part of the award and I wrote to their leaders and co-ordinated all of the resources that I needed in order to deliver a fun evening, without a hitch!”

- Example by Adam Ray



# Including Scouting in your Personal Statement and CV

The examples below and overleaf are in potential CV formats. Take a look at the varying Scouting achievements these Scout members have mentioned.

## **International Service Team, World Scout Jamboree 2019**

Worked within the 'Training a Smarter Workforce' Team providing relevant activities to encourage creative thinking when approaching problems. I experienced working alongside people from other STEM disciplines who shared their international backgrounds and knowledge.

## **Queen's Scout Award (completed 2018)**

Alongside volunteering and completing multiple educational activities, I had to be self-motivated and organised. I also built upon confidence I have gained throughout my whole Scouting journey.

## **Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards (completed 2014, 2015, 2016)**

Put into practice crucial life skills such as first aid, whilst also requiring a positive mentality when overcoming difficult problems and decisions both individually and as part of a team.

## **Scout Leader (since 2012)**

Volunteered for 8 years with Beaver Scouts at Guildford since being at the University of Surrey. My most rewarding pastime, working with a younger generation of Scouts, encouraging and teaching them through fun and interactive activities. As a Young Leader (under 18), I gained my Young Leader Award which gave me confidence and independence with planning and carrying out weekly meetings.

## **Kent Scout ReQuest2021 Team (since 2019)**

As part of a team of 10 Scouts from Kent and Scotland, I will be sailing from Argentina to Antarctica in December 2021 - January 2022 to commemorate 100 years since Sir Ernest Shackleton's last expedition to Antarctica in 1921 where he was accompanied by 2 Scouts. I am part of a group project and am also undertaking an individual research project throughout the expedition as I am working towards my Scouts of the World Award.

## **Darcey Holmes**



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## Assistant Cub Scout Leader (April 2018 Onwards)

The role of Assistant Cub Scout Leader is a more independent role within the section, doing my own personal preparation of what would work best for the young people, completing Risk Assessments with heavy amounts of planning going into events to provide the cubs with fun and safe occasions. My future plans in leadership are to complete my adult leadership training to be fully qualified and achieving my Wood Badge.

### Key Skills Obtained From Volunteering:

- Leadership Skills
- Communicating with people of different ages
- Interpersonal Skills
- Independence
- Flexibility and adaptability
- Commitment
- Able to cope with the responsibility
- Decision Making
- Trustworthy

## Young Leader (January 2011 - April 2018)

Being mentored by adult leaders, I assisted in running weekly meetings and events for the Cub Scout section (8-10½), working with young people to achieve and obtain their badges whilst completing my own Young Leader modules and training.

### Key Skills Obtained From Volunteering:

- Excellent preparation and organisational skills
- Patience and perseverance in all areas
- Ability to plan and follow schedules
- Ensure all standards and regulations are adhered to
- Keep up to date with all new rules set by the organisation
- Commitment

Mia Glyn-Jones



## **Including Scouting in your Personal Statement and CV**

**Over 110,000 adults are involved with scouting in the UK and they, along with young people, have the opportunity to experience new things, learn new skills and develop personally.**

The training that you will receive as a member of scouting has implications beyond your role.

When applying for a job it is important to remember to include the formal scout training that you have taken part in and had within your application, as well as what you have learnt informally through experience.

Employers are often looking for skills that as an adult in scouting you will already have. Do not be put off from including these skills in an application simply because your potential employer does not know about scouting. Many of the skills you have can be described in non-scouting terms, as can the roles you have carried out as a volunteer.

