



[Freespiritessu.org.uk](http://Freespiritessu.org.uk)

## FreeSpirit Explorer Scout Unit

### What you can expect from us

FreeSpirit Explorers have been delivering an Explorer Scout programme in the Torfaen area for a number of years. The programme is extensive covering weekly meetings, weekend camps / activities and an annual camp that comprises 7-14 days away normally at the beginning of the school summer holidays. This Unit normally camps on average 3 weekends per term. The programme is published termly both as a hard copy handout and on our website – all information to both parents and the young people goes out on the website first – please check the relevant sections regularly to keep up to date. All activities are carried out within the Policies and Rules of the Scout Association and are covered by an extensive insurance policy.

All of the leaders at FreeSpirit (please see the Who's who section) are full members of the Scout Association, have completed extensive leader and first aid training and an enhanced disclosure with the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB). In addition to the standard Explorer Leader training, many of our leaders have additional training in kayaking, canoeing, climbing, abseiling, wilderness camping and international expeditions and many aspects of our programme reflect the leader's interests.

Communication is considered paramount to running a successful programme. 60-70% of our weekly meetings are away from our designated hut. The termly programme normally indicates if an activity is "home" or "away". However, exact details are normally given out at the previous meeting and via a text message (to youngsters and parents) each week normally on a Sunday afternoon.

FreeSpirit Explorers meet on a Monday evening from 7.30pm til 9pm. However, some of our activities require that we alter these times slightly.

Any leader is available by phone, e mail or face to face at any time (within reason!) should you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of our Unit or your child's participation in any of the activities.



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### **What we expect from you**

It is the parents responsibility to ensure that your son / daughter arrives safely and is transported home from our meetings. Leaders are not normally in a position to give regular lifts to anyone and Child Protection guidelines normally advise against this.

We ask that you be supportive towards your child's interest in Explorer Scouts and ensure that they arrive on time wearing the appropriate clothing – normally uniform or our activity shirts. A number of our activities require that we meet away from the hut, e.g. a canoeing lake, and we ask that all parents take it in turn to help transport the youngsters to and from these activities.