Module 12A contains objectives that relate to the provision and support of a quality programme for young people and young adults.

Key Objectives

There are five overall objectives for this module:

1. Explain how a quality programme meets The Scout Association’s Purpose and the needs of young people and young adults across all sections.
2. Outline the key elements of the programme for all sections, including the various awards, challenges and badges.
3. Outline the Young Leaders’ Scheme, its benefits and how you can support it in your role.
4. Understand the role of reviewing in supporting and enhancing the programme.
5. Understand the importance of young people and young adults shaping their Scouting experience.

Resource and Support Material

The leader’s handbook “Prepared”

Scout Association material:

- Video “The Programme”
- Video “Young Leaders Scheme”
- Differences in Sections (The Balanced Programme)
- Climbing Wall of Youth Involvement
- Quality Programme checkers
- A guide to supporting Young People on committees
- Example of Beaver term Programme
- Example of Cub term Programme
- Example of Scout term Programme
- Example of Explorer term Programme

Link to the e-learning for Module 12A

N.B. These links worked when this review was written (January 2017)

If necessary, search in scouts.org.uk/members for updated locations.

Resource in scouts-scotland.org.uk:
- Scouting & Curriculum for Excellence

Validation Criteria

Discuss your responses to the following questions with a Training Adviser:

☐ Can you identify the key elements that make up the programme?
☐ Do you know the six areas which are key to the development of young people?
☐ Can you identify the three key themes and the underlying themes of the programme?
☐ Do you know what a quality programme looks like?
☐ Do you know about the badges and awards for your Section and where to find more information about them?
☐ Do you know what to look for when reviewing your programme, what a quality checker is and what its purpose is?

☐ Do you know how to adapt a programme to ensure its quality?
☐ Do you understand the aims of the Young Leaders’ Scheme, how to support YLs with their training and how to involve them in the leadership team? Where can you get further information?
☐ Do you know about Youth-Shaped Scouting methods, how to involve young people and the value it brings? Can you identify the seven levels of Youth Involvement and where your section sits? Where can you get further information?
☐ Do you understand how Curriculum for Excellence applies to the young people with whom you work and how you complement the learning that schools/colleges provide?
**Module 12A: Delivering a Quality Programme**

### A reminder: The Purpose of Scouting

Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

### The needs of young people

The programme should address the personal development needs of young people.

These development needs can be split into six key areas:

1. **Fun** – Young people need to enjoy themselves and share enjoyment with others.
2. **Relationships** – Young people need friends and they need to value and respect others, forming mutually positive relationships that foster a sense of belonging.
3. **Development** – Young people need to develop themselves – their values, beliefs and talents – and strive to reach their potential.
4. **Self-respect** – Young people need to value and have confidence in who they are and nurture their own well-being.
5. **Discernment** – Young people need to make informed, reasoned and responsible choices.
6. **Empowerment** – Young people need to express and act on their opinions, values and beliefs and use them to make a positive contribution, with others, as citizens of the world.

### What makes up the programme?

The term programme refers to the range of activities, challenges and experiences that young people take part in whilst they are in Scouting.

**Key features of the programme:**

1. The programme is progressive:
   - it ensures that young people are challenged throughout Scouting, building and expanding on their knowledge and skills
   - it aids the retention of young people.
2. There are three programme areas (Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers):
   - Outdoor and Adventure
   - World
   - Skills
3. The programme builds towards each Section’s Top Award:
   - Chief Scout’s Award/Queen’s Scout Award
4. The programme is flexible:
   - Includes those with additional needs.
5. The programme is delivered using the Scout Method:
   - A wide variety of methods aid programme delivery.

### Awards and Badges

**Membership Award**: Presented to young people when they take their Promise and become a member of the Movement.

**Joining in Award**: Presented annually to young people to recognise the length of their time in Scouting.

**Activity Badges**: Specific to sections, they recognise and reward young people’s different interests and talents.

**Staged Activity Badges**: Available to all sections from Beavers to Explorers and cover a range of topics and skills.

**Moving On Award**: Presented to young people when they progress to the next section in the Movement.

**Challenge Award**: (Beavers, Cubs, Scouts) Require young people to take part in a range of activities to develop their skills and understanding in specific areas.

**Top Awards**: Celebrate the highest level of achievement that young people can gain in their section, and in Scouting. Young Leaders’ Scheme: An optional leadership training programme for Explorers who wish to volunteer in the younger sections to develop their own skills and experience.

**Duke of Edinburgh Award**: An external award scheme available to the Explorer and Network sections focusing on areas of volunteering, skills, physical, and expedition.

### Quality Programme

- a good quality programme supports the retention and recruitment of young people.
- providing a quality programme that young people actively enjoy and respond to ensures a more rewarding experience for adult volunteers too.
- managers have a responsibility for ensuring that scouting in their area is of a good quality.

**All programmes should:**

- provide challenge and adventure for young people and be fun and enjoyable
- be safe, rewarding and varied
- be shaped by young people in partnership with adults
- give young people an opportunity to learn, develop and share ideas
- give young people the opportunity to develop a better understanding of their community and the world around them
- give young people the opportunity to gain life skills and confidence, to develop self-esteem and to understand relationships.

**Ensure that the programme:**

- offers a balance of each of the challenge areas for the section
- includes opportunities to achieve badges and awards such as activity badges, challenge awards or staged activity badges
- enables all young people to achieve Chief Scout Awards
- provides opportunities for young people to provide feedback and influence the programme, and act upon this feedback
- provides opportunities to engage with young people outside of their section, such as attending District and County events or taking part in activities with other sections
- provides opportunities to take part in activities away from the normal meeting place
- provides opportunities to engage with the local community
- offers opportunities to experience nights away
- is planned in advance with the section’s leadership team
- is delivered using a wide variety of methods
- is delivered by adults or young people with the appropriate skills for the planned activities.

### Reviewing the Programme

Helps to develop and enhance it. Use the “Quality of Programme Checker”.

- Are the activities appropriate for the size of the group?
- Are the activities age-appropriate and safe for the section?
- Is there balance and variety in types of activities included in the programme?
- Does it provide opportunities for young people to take part in activities away from the normal meeting place?
- Are there gaps in the plan or lack of detail?
- Do the activities use a variety of Programme methods?
- Are the activities inclusive and accessible to all?
- Are the activities appropriate for the time of year?
- Is the programme fun, engaging and exciting?
### The Young Leaders’ Scheme

**Young Leaders are not just there to help out in other sections, the scheme is primarily about their personal development.**

**Suggestions for involving Young Leaders:**
- Give Young Leaders the responsibility for one aspect of each section meeting.
- Actively involve Young Leaders in the programme planning process for the section.
- Give Young Leaders the responsibility for organising and running the Section forum.
- Ask Young Leaders to gather programme ideas from the young people in the section.

### Youth Shaped Scouting

- Scouting should be shaped by young people in partnership with adults.
- It is about giving young people the opportunity, skills and confidence to get involved.
- They should shape all aspects of their experience in an age-appropriate way.
- Involvement should be a right for young people but not an obligation.

**Young people can shape Scouting through being involved in:**
- planning and evaluation
- learning from and teaching others
- sharing ideas
- making their voice heard
- decision-making.

**Suggestions for involving young people:**
- asking young people and young adults for feedback, e.g. at section meetings, camps and events, to ensure the programme is meeting the needs of the section
- involving older sections in programme planning meetings
- suggestion boxes
- peer mentoring
- including nights in the programme run by young people
- asking young people to choose the game at the start of each evening
- asking young people to act on committees
- section forums (e.g. Beaver Log chews, Cub Pack leadership forums, Scout Troop forums, Explorer Unit forums, Scout Network forums)
- Group, District or County forums or youth councils
- involving young people in deciding how funds are allocated or judging competitions
- asking young people what District or County events they want to see run
- Sixers or Patrol Leaders teaching skills to younger members
- though leaders are responsible for making the agreed Programme happen, Explorers and Network members who want to help organise and run activities should be encouraged and supported
- involving older sections in internal and external communications, e.g. writing to local papers, advertising, recruitment.

### Scouting and Curriculum for Excellence

“Curriculum for Excellence - the Scottish school curriculum - strongly encourages schools and education providers to work in partnership with local organisations to ensure our young people get the proper recognition for what they are learning, wherever the learning takes place.”

**The purpose of Curriculum for Excellence** is to enable children and young people to develop four capacities:
- **Successful Learners**
- **Confident Individuals**
- **Effective Contributors**
- **Responsible Citizens**

**Sounds familiar?**

**Scouting’s purpose** links closely with the four capacities of Curriculum for Excellence, and we are actively supporting our volunteers so that they can develop local partnerships with schools to benefit our young people.

**Benefits of Working in Partnership**
- **Scouting wins:** the profile of scouting is raised locally, often resulting in requests to join from adults and young people.
- **Schools win:** they gain a better understanding of what their pupils are learning out with the traditional school day,
- **Young people win:** they gain better recognition of what they are learning and achieving through Scouting.