

Guide To Nights Away Permits in East Somerset – June 2023 v2

THANK YOU! Nights Away experiences for young people in Scouting are a core part of our programme. It all started with a camp in 1907 and residential experiences are as important today as they were then. Thank you for enhancing your Scouting activities with residential experiences and for all the benefits that will bring to the young people in your area.

We have a team of Nights Away Assessors (NAA) in East Somerset and this guide shows you how Nights Away Permits (NAPs) are assessed by the team.

Step 1

- Complete a Nights Away Permit Application form and email it to the Nights Away co-ordinator on the email below or use the on-line form **HERE**. If you have dates in mind for your event, let them know. They need **at least 8 weeks notice** of an event for assessment.

Step 2

- Ensure that you have the skills you need. The County training calendar has details of Modules 38a and 38b, which can be very useful. Further resources can be found on The Scouts Website

Step 3

- Plan your nights away event. Let the Nights Away team know the dates as soon as you can so they can arrange to meet with you.

Step 4

- A NAA will meet with you to review your planning. This generally takes a couple of hours and will be at a mutually agreed time and place. Ideally this takes place in person but it is possible remotely using email, phone, Skype, etc.

Step 5

- Hold your residential event and one of the NAAs will visit. This definitely takes place in person! They will be aware of your programme and look for a suitable time but you should be able to step away from the event to chat with them and leave others in your event team to continue with the activities.

Step 6

- Your NAA will arrange a final review of your planning and event after it has taken place. Again, this is best in person at a mutually agreed place and time but remote meetings are possible if needed.

Step 7

- You will be notified of the results of your assessment during the review meeting and then, if appropriate, a recommendation will be forwarded by the NAA to the DC to award a permit. Your record on Compass will be updated once your permit has been awarded.

***Renewals follow the same application process but are generally assessed in a single session provided you have recent camping experience and the existing permit has not already expired.

Remember!

Any NAP can only be issued to a member who's mandatory training is up-to-date. This includes First Aid, Safety, Safeguarding and GDPR.

Please Note: There is no direct link between completion of Module 16/38 and the issue of a Nights Away Permit. Applying for, and gaining, a NAP is just one of the ways to validate those training modules

Here to help!

Throughout this process your NAA and the NA team are on hand to provide support and guidance so please ask if you have questions. Our aim is that there are many safe, high quality, residential events for young people in East Somerset and we are here to help you be part of achieving that.

Contacts & Links

- Visit the [Nights Away pages](#) on the Scout website – search for “nights away”
- Talk to your Line Manager – for Section Leaders and Assistant Section Leaders, that's your GSL
- Contact the Nights Away Permit co-ordinator by emailing nap@eastsomersetscouts.org.uk