

opportunities

YLQ MODULE 2

YOUR ROLE IN GIRLGUIDING UK



Introduction

Being part of guiding is an enjoyable and rewarding experience. Every unit is different and you will find friends, support and new ideas by getting involved outside your unit. Guiding works best when skills and experience are shared.

In this module you will be asked to think about your commitment to the Senior Section Promise, which expresses the ideal and spirit of guiding.

Leadership in guiding is about the relationships between you and:

- all the members of the unit
- the rest of the Unit Team
- other Leaders in your area
- the wider community.

The activities in this module will help you develop these relationships.

Part 1: Discuss your understanding of the Promise with an adult member of your choice and make or renew your Senior Section Promise.

WHY DO I NEED TO DO THIS?

Making your Promise as a Young Leader is an essential part of being a Leader in guiding. It is your commitment to a common standard represented by both the Promise and the Law. As a Young Leader, you will make the Senior Section Promise. (For variations on the Promise, look in *The Guiding Manual*.)

I promise that I will do my best:

*To love my God,
To serve the Queen and my country,
To help other people
and
To keep the Guide Law.*

And I will make a further commitment to be of service to my community.

The Guide Law applies to Guides, Senior Section and adult members alike. It is:

A Guide is honest, reliable and can be trusted.

A Guide is helpful, and uses her time and abilities wisely.

A Guide faces challenge and learns from her experiences.

A Guide is a good friend and a sister to all Guides.

A Guide is polite and considerate.

A Guide respects all living things and takes care of the world round her.

HOW DO I ACHIEVE THIS?

- Discuss your understanding of the Promise with an adult member of your choice.
- When you are ready, make or renew your Promise.

Making your Promise

Visit the Promise section of the Senior Section CD-ROM for more information about the Senior Section Promise.

You can discuss your understanding of the Promise with any experienced adult member - a Commissioner, a supporter, an Adviser, a trainer or a Leader in your own or another unit. The discussion may take place in an informal setting. The Promise is personal to everyone, so it is important that you are comfortable with the person with whom you choose to have the discussion.



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When you make or renew your Promise, choose an occasion suitable to you and to the adult member of your choice. You may like to do this at a Promise celebration with the unit. This will help the girls and young women understand that you are making the same commitment that they are making.

You might prefer to do it at a training, while on a hike or around the campfire. You do not need to be in uniform but what you wear should be appropriate to the occasion.

Part 2: Get involved in guiding at a local level.

WHY DO I NEED TO DO THIS?

To continue giving your girls a valuable experience, it is important to share information and opportunities within your area. Also, getting to know other Leaders outside your unit is a good way of widening your circle of guiding friends and supporters.

One way to do this is at the meetings which are held in your local area for Leaders, Unit Helpers and Young Leaders from all the units. These meetings are opportunities for two-way communication, allowing people to provide information, put forward ideas and plan events. They are part of Girlguiding UK's decision-making process. If you are able to, visit a meeting to see what happens.

Another way to meet other Leaders is to participate in local events that involve the units in your area. You could form part of the team that coordinates the event and help with the planning of the activities. The activity or event need not be a major project; it can be any size or length, providing it has a purpose.

HOW DO I ACHIEVE THIS?

- Attend meetings and keep a note of what was discussed.
- Using information communicated, help the unit participate in an activity or event involving at least one other unit. Afterwards, discuss the activity with your supporter. It may be an activity you have suggested and it will give you an opportunity to work with other Leaders and share good practice.

Meetings and events

You may find it difficult to attend every meeting because of other commitments. If this is the case, discuss it with your Commissioner. It is important that relevant information - such as opportunities, events, changes in processes and procedures and so on - is shared with the unit members.

A diary of events may be available in your District or Division. These are generally planned well in advance. In some areas you may be part of a bigger team, for example a Division, and attend its meetings.

There will be many opportunities for you to get involved if you wish. Here are a few examples:

- Helping to plan a fun day.
- Helping to raise funds.
- Helping at a District, Division or County Annual General Meeting.
- Volunteering to be part of a project group or to be a representative on a working group looking at a specific area of guiding.
- Organising refreshments at an event.
- Joining with another unit for a meeting or event.
- Taking a few unit members on a residential event run by the District or another unit.