LEARNING TO THRIVE

Youth learning in Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting
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Every day, ten million young people take part in Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting around the world. Inspired and empowered by volunteer leaders, they grow in confidence, develop life skills, and take the lead in their communities.

As members of Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting, they are part of WAGGGS; the largest educational Movement for girls and young women in the world. Together, we work for a world where all girls are valued.

So how does Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting create empowering youth learning experiences? Through a unique values based approach, shared by Girl Guide and Girl Scouts around the world.

WAGGGS’ approach to youth learning is simple and effective:

WAGGGS is a non-formal education Movement...
...that uses the Girl Guide and Girl Scout educational method...
...to develop values...
...and skills for life...
...that empower girls to reach their fullest potential...
...and take action to change the world.

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Registered Charity No.306125 in England and Wales
Like many youth organisations, WAGGGS uses non-formal educational methods to achieve its mission; to enable girls and young women to develop their fullest potential as responsible citizens of the world. Non-formal education is a planned programme of personal and social education designed to improve a range of skills and competencies, outside formal educational structures.

By encouraging a child in its natural desires, instead of instructing it in what you think it ought to do, you can educate it on a far more solid and far-reaching basis. It is only tradition and custom that ordain that education should be a labour.

Baden Powell, circa 1913
As a values-based organisation, WAGGGS believes that developing values is central to personal growth.

WAGGGS’ core values are:

- **Integrity**: Living honestly by your value system, with self respect and self worth. Taking responsibility for your own actions and reaction.
- **Citizenship**: Active and informed members of the community who respect others, appreciate diversity and contribute to making a positive difference in the world.
- **Spirituality**: Acknowledgement and development of personal beliefs.

Girl Guides and Girl Scouts make a commitment to a shared standard represented by their Promise and Law. Each Member Organization uses their promise and law to bring the WAGGGS values to life for their members, and explores these values in their activities.

WAGGGS programmes apply these values by focusing on issues that are relevant to girls and young women, encouraging them to look beyond their own lives to develop an understanding of the wider world and how they, as global citizens, can make a difference.

WAGGGS prepares its members to thrive in a rapidly changing world, and empowers them to live the life they want to lead.

Girl Guides and Girl Scouts learn life skills that matter, whatever path they choose to follow:

**Character**
- Self-aware and confident leaders, we take initiative to set and achieve goals, both individually and working with others.

**Creativity**
- We are creative thinkers and resilient problem solvers. We self-direct our learning to access, evaluate and apply information, and develop innovative solutions.

**Citizenship**
- We are active in our local communities, and connected to the wider world. We want to take action to make the world a better place.

**Communication**
- We express our ideas confidently to different audiences, are good listeners and respond empathically to others.

**Collaboration**
- We are true team players, who understand how to work positively with people and care about diversity.

**Commitment**
- We are committed to our own learning and development, and invest in it throughout our lives.
Girl Guide and Girl Scout programmes create a safe space for the whole girl to grow. She will develop intellectually, physically, socially, emotionally, morally and spiritually through age appropriate activities. She will be challenged to see herself as a leader, and develop the skills and confidence to take the lead in the wider world.

Girl Guides and Girl Scouts learn about their communities and develop an interest in global issues. They build the confidence to take the lead and speak out. They develop the values that motivate them to put their learning into action.

Making a difference has been a core value of WAGGGS’ education for over 100 years. Today, WAGGGS believes that empowered girls can go even further; they can change the world.
Want to learn more?

Read Prepared to Learn, Prepared to Lead: a guide to creating amazing youth learning experiences


Want to be part of the journey?

Contact: youthlearning@wagggs.org

Thank you!

We hope you have enjoyed Learning to Thrive, and find it a useful tool for reflecting on how to apply the educational method to your Girl Guide and Girl Scout activities.

If you want to learn more about WAGGGS’ work on Girl Guide and Girl Scout Educational Programmes, please get in touch with youthlearning@wagggs.org

Every child deserves a champion - an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection, and insists that they become the best that they can possibly be.

Rita Pierson