

CHILDREN IN CARE AND CHILDREN IN INSECURE HOUSING

At Girlguiding North West England, we strive to ensure everyone is included and has equal access to the amazing opportunities and experiences we offer. This means sometimes making adjustments to ensure guiding is inclusive and accessible for all members.

For children in care or insecure housing, adjustments may be necessary to ensure they are able to get the most out of guiding. Children in care, sometimes known as looked after children, and those living in insecure housing may move around a lot and experience additional hardships such as difficulty making friends or inability to attend clubs outside of school.

Why is it important to be inclusive and accessible?

Girlguiding North West England strives to show all girls they can do anything. To reach this goal all our members must have equal access to the opportunities we offer.

What are adjustments, and how can we make them?

Adjustments are changes made to include and support our members. This may include considering the financial cost of uniform, trips, and activities and waving these when possible, considering prioritising members on waiting lists who may not have had the opportunity to be placed on the waiting list early, or being sensitive around events such as mothers and fathers day.

Adjustments look different for everyone, and there are many ways to make guiding accessible and inclusive through adjustments. The best way to ensure our adjustments are inclusive is to ask the young member or their parent or guardian.

While conversations surrounding inclusivity, accessibility, and adjustments may seem daunting, these will likely be conversations that individuals have had before, whether that be in school or in other activities. Beginning these conversations from a place of care, support, and a desire to make guiding inclusive is the most important thing. For more information surrounding making adjustments, and supporting and making adjustments, please visit the Girlguiding website [here](#).



Resources

Discussing inclusion and diversity within units is an important way to create an inclusive and welcoming environment so our members feel acknowledged, heard, respected, and supported. Below are some resources which may help guide conversations surrounding creating an inclusive and accessible guiding unit.

Resources from the Girlguiding Program:

Rainbows:

- UMA Know Myself- Making Friends
- UMA Take Action- A Warm Welcome

Brownies:

- UMA Know Myself- Brownie Town

Guides:

- UMA Know Myself- My Support Chain

Rangers:

- UMA Know Myself- Allies Unite

Resources for adult members:

- NCPCC, [Children in Care](#)
- The Fostering Network, [Education resources for foster carers](#)
- Save The Children, [Child Poverty in the UK](#)
- BBC Children in Need, [Supporting young people affected by poverty](#)
- Barnardo's, [No child should grow up in poverty](#)

