



Scouts of the World Award

What is the Scouts of the World Award?

The Scouts of the World Award (SOWA) is one of the Top Awards that is only available to Network members (18-24 year olds). It is an award administered by the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) and can be achieved by Scouts in 50 countries around the world.

The Award challenges young people to think about the global issues they value and act upon them by completing a sustainable community project based around one of more of the three main fields of action: Development, Peace and Environment. The projects can be carried out locally, elsewhere in the UK, or in another country.

What are the requirements of the Award?

The award is completed in three phases:

Discovery Course (14 hours) – this is where Network members come together to explore and discover issues faced by their communities and the world. It covers the Sustainable Development Goals (see activity later in this document), the three main fields of action (Development, Peace and Environment) and provides members with the skills required to carry out a community project.

Discovery Courses are run by SOWA Trainers over a residential weekend, two single days, or a series of evenings. With the current situation not allowing Discovery Courses to be run like this, there is scope for Virtual Discovery Courses to be organised (see below if you are interested).

Voluntary Service (80 hours) – Network members are assigned a Scouts of the World Award mentor who supports and guides them to plan, develop and deliver a project that has a long-term sustainable impact on a local, national or international community. This can be completed individually, in pairs or as a group of three.

Presentation, Evaluation & Reflection (3 hours) – Network members evaluate the journey through the Award and the project itself before presenting their project and evaluation to an audience. The final sign-off of the Award is made by the ACC (Network).

What can I do once I have completed the Award?

Apart from achieving an Award that very few other Network members have completed, by doing so, this can count as one of the ICV activities for the Chief Scout's Diamond Award or Queen's Scout Award.

Network members can use their knowledge and skills developed throughout the Award to then support others by becoming a Scouts of the World Award mentor. Mentors are provided with training and guidance to help them in their role.

I'm interested in doing the Award so how can I get onto a Discovery course or find out more?

There are a number of Counties & Areas across the UK who have SOWA Trainers who deliver Discovery Courses. Staffordshire is one of these Counties so a course can be run if there are Network members interested in doing the Award.

Additionally, as all Network members can attend both projects and events in their local District but also across the UK, it is possible to join a Discovery Course being run by another County or Area – this is particularly useful for university students who may be away from their home area during the year.

If you would like further information and/or to register your interest in attending a Discovery Course (virtually or face-to-face), please contact Bruce Field – the SOWA Co-ordinator for Staffordshire – bruce.field@staffordshirescouts.org.uk

Activity – a taster of the Scouts of the World Award

The Scouts of the World Award enables Network members to be active global citizens and individually make a difference to the Sustainable Development Goals. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were written and agreed by 191 member states of the United Nations and international organisations in 2015 to work towards by 2030.

Watch a short video [here](#) that introduces the Sustainable Development Goals.

You can also watch a TED video [here](#) that explains the progress made against the Sustainable Development Goals in the first 3 years and where this might be by 2030.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD



Choose two or three of the goals above that interest you and have a think about what each of them will include.

You can then read more about what the goal includes, targets and indicators, and the progress made, at the Sustainable Development Goals website [here](#). Click on the relevant goal to read the information.

Finally, select one of the goals and think about things you could do to make a difference towards that goal, at a local level, national level and an international level.