West Yorkshire Scouts Winter Coat Appeal 2026

Leader and Communications Pack



Everything you need to share the appeal with leaders, families and local communities

LEADER BRIEFING

How the appeal works

Thank you for helping Uniform Exchange get warm coats to local children and families this winter. Our coat shelves are extremely low and requests are beginning to increase. This pack gives leaders everything they need to launch the appeal, share it with families and arrange the handover of donations.

Collection period	Greatest need	Family drop off	Support available
26 October to 15 November	Warm children's coats	At the next few Scout meetings	Poster, wording and collection help

What we're collecting

- Warm children's coats in every size (3-4 yrs to men's XXL) . These are our most urgent need.
- Good-quality adult coats. We support the wider community too.
- Winter hats, gloves and scarves for children's winter packs.

Practical warm coats suitable for wearing to school are especially helpful. Please don't donate coats that are badly stained, damaged, excessively worn or unsuitable to pass directly to another family.

What group leaders need to do

1. Nominate one person to coordinate your group's collection.
2. Share the poster and ready-written wording through your usual channels, we have provided copy for email, WhatsApp, newsletter and social media channels.
3. Invite families to bring donations to their next few Scout meetings.
4. Choose a safe and dry place to store the donations.
5. If possible, keep a simple count of the coats and winter accessories collected.
6. Contact Uniform Exchange to arrange collection or delivery by your team.

READY TO SHARE WITH GROUP LEADERS

Email to group leaders

Subject: Help us keep local children warm this winter

Hi Team,

Our Scouting family is supporting Uniform Exchange's Winter Coat Appeal and we'd love every group to get involved.

The colder weather's arriving and Uniform Exchange's coat shelves are extremely low. Requests from families are beginning to increase so we're asking groups to collect clean, good-quality winter coats along with hats, gloves and scarves. New items would be welcome.

Warm children's coats in every size are the greatest need although good-quality adult coats are welcome too. From size 3-4yrs to men's XXL and everything in between.

Please share the attached poster with your families and invite them to bring donations to their Scout meetings between 26 October and 15 November.

Uniform Exchange works with all 182 schools across Kirklees and distribute more than 2,000 coats. Every donated coat will be given free of charge to someone who needs it.

Uniform Exchange can help arrange the final collection or handover so please nominate one person from your group to coordinate the donations.

Thank you for helping us show what the Scouting family can achieve when we work together.

With best wishes,

Short message to read at a Scout meeting

We're helping Uniform Exchange collect winter coats for local children and families who need them.

If you've got a clean winter coat at home that no longer fits or isn't being used please bring it to one of our next meetings. We're also collecting hats, gloves and scarves.

Every coat will be given free of charge to someone who needs it. One coat might not feel like much but to a child facing winter without one it can make a huge difference.

READY TO SHARE WITH FAMILIES

Email to parents and carers

Subject: Please support our Winter Coat Appeal

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our group's supporting the West Yorkshire Scouts Winter Coat Appeal for Uniform Exchange.

Uniform Exchange provides free school uniform, coats and other essential clothing to children and families across Kirklees. Its coat shelves are extremely low just as the colder weather is arriving and requests for help are increasing.

If you're able to help please donate a clean, good-quality winter coat. Warm children's coats in every size are most urgently needed although good-quality adult coats are very welcome too (size 3-4yrs to men's XXL and everything in between).

We're also collecting hats, gloves and scarves. New items would be welcome.

Please bring your donations to Scout meetings between 26 October and 15 November.

Last winter Uniform Exchange distributed more than 2,000 coats. By checking our wardrobes and passing on coats that are no longer needed we can help keep local children warm while giving good clothing another life.

Thank you for supporting the appeal.

WhatsApp message

Our Scout group's supporting the West Yorkshire Scouts Winter Coat Appeal for Uniform Exchange.

Please bring any clean, good-quality winter coats your family no longer needs to our meeting between 26 October and 15 November. Warm children's coats in every size are urgently needed along with hats, gloves and scarves. Adult coats are welcome too.

Every donation will be given free of charge to someone who needs it. Thank you for helping us keep local children warm this winter.

Short WhatsApp reminder

A quick reminder that we're collecting winter coats for Uniform Exchange until 15 November. Please bring any clean coats your family no longer needs to our next Scout meeting. Children's coats are urgently needed along with hats, gloves and scarves. Thank you!

SOCIAL MEDIA COPY

Launch and reminder posts

Launch post

Could a coat sitting unused in your home help keep a local child warm this winter?

Our Scout group is supporting the West Yorkshire Scouts Winter Coat Appeal for Uniform Exchange and we'd love our families and community to get involved.

We're collecting clean, good-quality winter coats with warm children's coats in every size being the greatest need. Good-quality adult coats are welcome too along with hats, gloves and scarves.

Please bring your donations to our Scout meeting between 26 October and 15 November.

Uniform Exchange works with all 182 schools across Kirklees and distribute more than 2,000 coats. Every coat donated will be given free of charge to someone who needs it.

Together our Scouting family can help make sure local children are warm, comfortable and ready for school this winter.

#WinterCoatAppeal #WestYorkshireScouts #UniformExchange #Kirklees #CommunityAction #GiveALittleChangeALot

Reminder post

Have you checked your coat cupboard yet?

Our Winter Coat Appeal is underway and we're asking families to donate any clean, good-quality winter coats they no longer need.

Children's coats in every size are urgently needed. We're also collecting good-quality adult coats and hats, gloves and scarves.

Please bring your donations to our next Scout meeting. Even one coat can make a real difference to someone in our community this winter.

#WinterCoatAppeal #WestYorkshireScouts #UniformExchange #KeepKirkleesWarm

SOCIAL MEDIA COPY

Final call and thank you posts

Final call post

It's the final few days of our Winter Coat Appeal.

If you've got a clean winter coat that your child has outgrown or your family no longer wears please bring it to our Scout meeting by 15 November.

Warm children's coats are our greatest need along with hats, gloves and scarves. Good-quality adult coats are welcome too.

Uniform Exchange's shelves were almost empty when this appeal began. Let's help fill them so local children and families can face the colder weather with something warm to wear.

#WinterCoatAppeal #WestYorkshireScouts #UniformExchange #LastChanceToDonate

Thank you post

Thank you West Yorkshire Scouts!

Every family that donated, every young person who got involved and every leader who helped organise a collection has made a difference.

Your coats, hats, gloves and scarves will now help local children and families stay warmer this winter. You've also given good clothing another life and helped protect the environment.

We're incredibly grateful for everything our Scouting family has collected for Uniform Exchange.

#ThankYou #WestYorkshireScouts #UniformExchange #CommunityAction #GiveALittleChangeALot

Photographs

We'd love groups to send photographs of their collections so we can celebrate and thank the young people involved. Please follow your usual photography and parental-consent procedures. A photograph of the collected coats without identifiable children is very welcome too.

NEWSLETTER AND HANDOVER

Newsletter and website copy

West Yorkshire Scouts Winter Coat Appeal

Our group is collecting winter coats for Uniform Exchange which supports children and families across Kirklees.

Uniform Exchange's coat shelves are extremely low and demand is increasing as the colder weather arrives. Please donate clean, good-quality winter coats with children's coats in every size being the most urgently needed. Hats, gloves and scarves are also needed and good-quality adult coats are welcome too.

Please bring donations to your Scout meeting between 26 October and 15 November.

Uniform Exchange distribute more than 2,000 coats. Together the Scouting family can help make sure local children stay warm this winter.

Arranging collection or delivery

When your group's collection is ready please contact Kate to arrange the simplest handover. Uniform Exchange can collect from central points or directly from groups where practical.

Contact	Kate France
Role	Founder and Operations Trustee, Uniform Exchange
Email	kate@uniform-exchange.org
Telephone	07969 158238

About Uniform Exchange

Uniform Exchange has been supporting the community and relieving uniform poverty for over 15 years. They work with all 182 schools across Kirklees and provides free, good-quality school uniform and essential clothing to local children and families. Every donated item is given free of charge to someone who needs it while helping the environment by keeping good clothing in use.

www.uniform-exchange.org

Give a little, Change a lot.