

SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

The Bedford & Milton Keynes Waterway Trust through the Bedford & Milton Keynes Waterway Enterprises Ltd operates the Community Boat. The boat is available for public cruises. It is also available for private hire by individuals, schools and voluntary groups. We are committed to safeguarding children, young people and adults from harm.

Hirers must ensure that they take reasonable steps to ensure that activities using the Community Boat are conducted in such a way that children, young people and vulnerable adults are kept safe from abuse. Organisations working with children, young people and vulnerable adults who hire the boat should have an appropriate safeguarding policy and procedures in place. This must include:

- a process for reporting any suspected safeguarding incident or allegation
- appropriate safeguarding training for staff and volunteers
- safer recruitment of staff and volunteers including the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Home Office of the United Kingdom checks where appropriate.

The Community Boat Public Trip Booking Terms & Conditions states that unaccompanied minors are not permitted as passengers. Unaccompanied minors are defined as being below the age of 16. The safety and behaviour of minors is the responsibility of the accompanying adult. The crew must never be placed in a situation where they are left with unattended children or vulnerable adults.

If you would like a copy of the John Bunyan Boat safeguarding policy, please ask for a copy or visit our website at <https://www.johnbunyanboat.org/>

Signed: *Chris Hillier*
Status: *Safeguarding Officer*
Date: *19 July 2019*

On behalf of The Bedford & Milton Keynes Waterway Trust and through it the Bedford & Milton Keynes Waterway Enterprises Ltd

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