

## Covid-19 Policy

We believe, now more than ever, in the beneficial impact of getting outside and having adventures with peers on the well-being of young people, and are therefore thrilled to be relaunching our summer programme in accordance with the gradual easing of government restrictions.

We have taken a number of steps to ensure your safety during your time on board:

We have reduced the number of people from different households on each boat and we are alternating the lifejackets and oilskins from course to course so that you won't be wearing the same ones worn by people on the previous course. Other measures include placing hand sanitizer on board and additional cleaning in between courses and at regular intervals during the on board daily routine. A member of our staff will check your temperature before boarding, and there will be daily temperature checks on board throughout the voyage. If a crew member is showing symptoms associated with Covid-19 or receives a positive result on a lateral flow test, we will take the necessary steps according to the advice by the nearest local health authority.

On board, briefings and meals will be held on deck where possible. Please understand that social distancing will not be possible to achieve at all times during your course, especially below decks.

Facemasks: Owing to the difficulty of teaching and social integration with a face covering, we do not have a direct policy that these will be worn on-board the vessel. When on deck in the open air, face masks do not need to be worn. Below, this is down to the discretion of the individual members of the new family unit. It is an individual's right to protect themselves and feel at ease, therefore, if during the conduction of teaching or social activities below decks anyone feels uncomfortable and wants to wear a mask, all others must follow suit.

Waterproofs – we will continue to rent out oilskins to those who don't have their own. **The smallest waterproofs we have is Small Adult.** However, if you have your own waterproof jacket and trousers, it would be preferred that you bring these and did not use ours. (This could also be equipment for hiking or skiing.) In the summer months you should not need anything too heavy duty, but may want some layers for underneath.

### There are a few things that we must ask you to do to help us:

- Please can you isolate as much as possible for five days before the course (travel for work not included) and self-assess for Covid-19 symptoms (high temperature, a new, continuous cough or a loss of or change to your sense of smell/taste) to protect the other crew on board.
- At least 24 hrs prior to joining the boat, please take a lateral flow test (all QT staff on site will do the same). You can order test kits for free through this government link: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>  
Should the test result be positive, please follow the government instructions (self-isolate and get a PCR test to confirm the results) and contact us as soon as possible.  
We encourage asymptomatic testing during the voyage and will be providing supervision where necessary.
- Please bring your own face-masks, hand sanitizer, re-fillable water bottle and – if possible – waterproof clothes.
- When you join one of our courses or trips, you will be creating a new family unit. Please try not to mix with others not belonging to your new family. Please be diligent about following the 1-meter plus rule when encountering people who are not part of your crew.

Please note the following: In order to limit the amount of people per boat, we may have to make temporary exceptions to our 2 adults per boat policy. Different marinas will be opening up at different stages as we come out of lockdown, which may affect where we are able to stay each night.

We will be constantly reviewing our risk assessments and operating arrangements throughout the season, based on the latest government advice as well as operational needs and practical applicability of the safeguards. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

**Please find our 'Risk Statement' attached below.**

*We look forward to having you on board!*

## **RISK STATEMENT**

It must be recognised that boating is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, you agree and acknowledge that:

- 1) You are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and you accept responsibility exposing yourself to such inherent risk whilst taking part in your course/trip/event.
- 2) You will comply at all times with the instructions of the Lead Skipper and other Quaystage staff, particularly with regards to handling of boats, wearing of life jackets, buoyancy aids and the wearing of suitable clothing for the conditions.
- 3) You accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by your own negligence.
- 4) You are aware of the inherent risk of exposure to any contagious disease that other participants in the course/trip/event may be carrying and you accept responsibility for exposing yourself to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the course/trip/event.
- 5) You have satisfied yourself as to your suitability for the course you are attending.
- 6) You will inform the Lead Skipper and other Quaystage staff if there have been any changes to information provided before, by or during the time of the course/trip/event.