

# Additional Information

## Accompanying Safety/Risk Information

This document can be used by group leaders prior to a group booking and voyage.

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### Official recognition or accreditation

Challenge Wales is a:  
Royal Yachting Association (RYA) Training Centre  
Approved Activity Provider for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE)  
Member of Association of Sail Training Organisations (ASTO)  
Agored Cymru Operating Centre; Youth Cymru Learning Partner.

### Written risk assessments

Challenge Wales has written Risk Assessments and they are available to view. These are our own risk assessments using nautical terms.

### Safety and conduct rules

Challenge Wales has a Behaviour Policy and this is communicated to the group leader and group at the start of the voyage or prior to a voyage if required by the group leader to share the information amongst the attending group/other group leaders. A full safety briefing with accompanying training is undertaken on arrival at the vessel, this is undertaken face to face with all of the group including Challenge Wales crew being present. Challenge Wales operates a no smoking vessel, no drinking, no drugs vessel for all ages. The group leaders are responsible for the behaviour of the young people while on a voyage.

### First Aid

Challenge Wales has first aid equipment on board, including a defibrillator. There is a trained first aider on all our voyages.

### Pre-voyage visits

Subject to the boat being available we offer pre-voyage visits. This can be for either the group leaders or the whole group (with accompanying group leaders) to join us. If the boat needs to be viewed by a Health and Safety colleague for your own risk assessments then we can accommodate that.

### Activity Equipment (Personal)

Equipment that we provide are lifejackets. These are serviced and checked every year independently of Challenge Wales and details are recorded of these checks. The life jackets confirm to the standards required. Challenge Wales operates a compulsory lifejacket policy. We also provide waterproof jackets and trousers for use aboard.

### Public Liability Insurance

Challenge Wales holds public liability insurance. The limit of Indemnity is £5million



### **Emergency Procedures**

Challenge Wales operates an Emergency Response plan, has late-back procedures as well as Accident, Incident and Near Miss reporting procedures (for both onshore and off shore).

### **Complaints Policy**

We have a Complaints Process Policy.

### **Residential Activities**

All Challenge Wales crew and the group will be sleeping on board the vessel. We only have 1 group on at a time.

Aboard *Challenge Wales*, staff accommodation is in the same area as young people with curtain separation. We have 2 x 5 berth area on each side of the vessel, a 2 x 2 berth area each side of the vessel and an additional 2 berth cabin area. We separate male and female accommodation.

Aboard *Adventure Wales*, separate cabins provide accommodation for crew, leaders and participants. These contain 2 bunks each, plus one cabin with 4 bunks.

The boats are either anchored at sea or tied up alongside a pontoon in a port. When anchored there is no access to the vessel. When in port there are usually secure pontoon arrangements and no access to the boat when the boarding ladder is removed. Challenge Wales operates a curfew on residential voyages.

Emergency services can access the boats easily if required, this includes coastguard and helicopter access.

Fire drills can be carried out during the first day of the voyage. We always talk through these procedures in detail as part of our safety briefing and we run through safety drills.

### **Who we work with**

We work with secondary schools, youth groups, special schools, young people with challenging behaviour, sixth form & FE college students, unemployed young people, vulnerable young people with special requirements, universities and many other organisations.

### **Enhanced DBS Check**

All Challenge Wales crew have undergone an enhanced DBS check.

### **Adventure Activities**

Challenge Wales provides sail training voyages using sailing boats. Challenge Wales operates under regulations laid down by Department for Transport, Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) 'The Safety of Small Commercial Sailing Vessels - Code of Practice'. This code regulates the safety requirements for the vessels and crew of commercial operations. The MCA enforce the code through close monitoring, inspections and investigations.

Under the Adventure Activities Licensing Regulations 1996, and in particular Regulation 2(1)(c) sailing vessels that are subject to the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 (or any regulation or code made hereunder) do not require an Adventure Activities Licence (AALS).

### **Other Information**

Challenge Wales booking terms and conditions apply on all voyages.

Not all voyages are suitable for all people and we have a variety of opportunities available. Prior to a voyage we will request medical information through filing in a medical declaration form. If anything is highlighted in this form which we might need further information on, then a secondary additional medical form is required to be completed. This is to make sure the person is suitable for the voyage, considering their safety and that of others..

For those under 18 years we request a Consent Form to be completed

Joining instructions are sent prior to a voyage which will detail what to bring, what to expect, contact number for the boat.

*Any queries can be directed to the person at the top of this document*