

The Floating Classroom

Terms and Conditions of Hire

The Hirer:

- All invoices to be paid at least 7 working days prior to the trip.
- Schools and youth groups are required to bring 1 adult for every 8 children. If on the day there is not the required number of adults accompanying children the trip will be cancelled.
- Details (numbers of children and adults; pick-up / drop-off times; age group and programme content; any special requirements you may have) to be confirmed to the Floating Classroom at least 48 hours before the trip.
- Should have a designated person responsible for behaviour and discipline of the group whilst on the vessel. The skipper will terminate the trip at any time if s/he considers the behaviour of group members is unacceptable or a safety risk. In extreme cases, where the skipper observes, or is made aware of, criminal or disorderly behaviour by group members, the trip will be terminated immediately and the police called.
- Possession and / or consumption of illegal drugs on board the boat is forbidden. In the event of a passenger found taking or under the influence of illegal drugs, the trip will be terminated and the police called.
- Shall be responsible for any loss or damage to the vessel, fixtures, fittings, and catering equipment.
- Shall accept the skipper's orders on all matters of the vessel and the conduct of passengers.
- Should ensure that their party is ready to begin their trip on time. If the party is not ready to leave within 15 minutes of the agreed start time, the skipper will ask the hirer to decide on one of two options:
 - The route to be travelled will be shortened at the skipper's suggestion to ensure the trip finishes at the agreed finish time; or
 - The hirer will be charged an additional fee equivalent to half of the hourly charge for each 30 minutes they are late e.g. if the party is 20 minutes late they will be charged for an additional 30 minutes; if they are 40 minutes late they will be charged for an additional hour.
- The total number of passengers in the hirers' party must not exceed 40 unless agreed beforehand with BLS. If the party exceeds 40, the skipper will ask the hirer to bring the group back down to maximum capacity. The trip will not go ahead until or unless this is achieved.
- Any cancellation made by the hirer within 7 working days of the trip date renders the hirer liable for the full amount of the total charge that remains payable.
- Shall check the suitability of any electrical equipment brought onto the vessel for use by the hirer with the skipper.
- CCTV is in operations on the exterior of the boat for the safety and protection of passengers. The hirer gives his/her consent that his/her group can be filmed.
- May be asked to complete a post-trip evaluation form with their group.
- Is still responsible for the behaviour of the class and to ensure that all of the adults (including parents and support staff) remain present and participate in the learning session with the children. This means that adults should not leave the session to use mobile phones (unless in an emergency) or to smoke anywhere on the boat.

PTO

The Floating Classroom:

- Will not be responsible for any injury or loss to persons or their property whilst on the vessel.
- Whilst the Floating Classroom will make every effort to operate at the agreed times, no liability will be accepted for any cancellation, breakdown, or unpunctuality beyond the company's control. In the event of cancellation the Floating Classroom, all monies paid shall be refunded and the hirer shall have no further claim against the Floating Classroom.

The vessel:

- The vessel will always be under the complete control of the skipper, who may alter, curtail or cancel any trip at his sole discretion.
- No person is permitted on the roof of the vessel, nor to lean out of any windows or put any part of their body over the side
- Any time given to the hirer for preparations on the vessel is arranged in good faith. We cannot accept responsibility if this time is reduced or cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances on the day.
- At the end of the cruise, 30 minutes will be allowed for the disembarkation of passengers and cleaning

Food and Drink

- A lunch period is factored into KS2 programmes and so children are expected to bring a packed lunch. They are expected to clear up afterwards, putting all waste and rubbish into the refuse sacks and recycling bags we provide. BLS will dispose of the sacks.
- Use of the galley facilities is permitted but these facilities must be left as they were found.

Signed:.....

Name:

Position:

Organisation:

Date:

Date of Trip(s):.....

Please sign and return this agreement to confirm your trip.