



# BOWHILL

HISTORY | HOUSE | GARDENS | CYCLING | WALKING | EVENTS | WILDLIFE

## **The Buccleuch Living Heritage Trust Guidance for working with Children**

The Buccleuch Living Heritage Trust is committed to providing a safe and creative environment for the education, care and safety of children and young people. Every young person who visits, in whatever capacity, has the right to feel safe, valued and secure, and the Company will take all necessary steps to ensure that this is the case.

We aim to adopt the highest possible standards in our dealings with young people, and to support all members of staff with clear guidance in their dealings with children and young people.

The Buccleuch Living Heritage Trust places a high value on encouraging young people to visit and to participate in events and activities and to make them feel welcome whilst having fun, regardless of age, sex, ability, race, colour or religion.

Whilst on the premises, most young people will be under the care of a parent, teacher or other supervising adult, but this does not mean that members of staff can abdicate responsibility for the safe and proper care of young people whilst they are with us. The ratio of adults to children in any supervised activity will not usually be less than 1:8 for children over 8; under 8s must be with a responsible adult at all times. Members of staff must under no circumstances be the only adult with a child or group of children.

In addition to this the Company demands that staff working with children:

- Remember that children regard adults as role models and ensure that their behaviour, language, gestures etc are above reproach
- Remember that the needs and rights of young people are paramount and that they must be treated with respect and dignity and be allowed to express an opinion
- Must not engage in, or allow a member of the group to engage in, scapegoating, ridiculing or rejecting children; making racially or sexually provocative remarks even in fun; rough, physically boisterous or provocative games; touching a child whatever the circumstances
- Must not place, or allow a child to be placed, in a situation which poses a risk to their health or safety. Full risk assessments are available for activities and should be followed diligently
- Must be scrupulous in destroying all information relating to children at the end of any activity

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