



SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT

Pondhead Conservation Trust is a small, registered conservation charity run entirely by volunteers. In the light of increasing safeguarding legislation and guidance our volunteer recruitment is restricted to adults over the age of 18 as we do not have the administration resources to ensure that we are compliant with all regulations regarding minors and vulnerable adults.

Unfortunately, this means that we are not in a position to help with requests for work experience and other student project work by those under the age of 18.

We are happy to continue to facilitate youth groups from outside organisations in Pondhead such as Scouts/Guides, Princes Trust, etc., on the understanding that while in Pondhead they are under the charge of responsible adult(s) with the relevant DBS checks and under their own risk assessment which we will be happy to assist with. A representative from PCT will also be in attendance on such events.

We are also happy to facilitate groups of vulnerable adults on strictly the same basis.

While it should not occur under this policy, there must be no sole working with anyone under the age of 18 or anyone who may be considered a vulnerable adult by members of Pondhead Conservation Trust.

The Trust does have their General Safeguarding Policy in place for all our adult volunteers which covers, Anti Bullying, Discipline and Misconduct Regulations and a Whistle Blowing Policy. We have a nominated Safeguarding Officer (details below) who will cover any matters which fall into that category.

Our **Safeguarding Officer** is John Howell