

**PIRATES** at EDSC is unique within Poole Harbour.

We are a volunteer-led team of like-minded parents, who have spent time building a children's sailing series that works for the children and us. Our intention is to create a child-friendly situation where the children of EDSC can have fun on the water and develop the skills of sailing in a fun and safe environment. This only works if every parent contributes to the running of the sessions. PIRATES is open to children under the age of 13 whose parents/guardians/grandparents are full members of the club.

Please be aware that Pirates is usually over-subscribed. Please email [pirates.edsc@yahoo.com](mailto:pirates.edsc@yahoo.com) for information about joining the waiting list.

**ABOUT US** – We are a rowdy rabble who love being around the water. We come back willingly every week. We are a team!

### **FOR KIDS**

**BE HAPPY** – No one should go sailing if they don't want to. Don't do anything that makes someone else unhappy.

**BE SAFE** – There are many ways. Here are just a few: listen to your skipper; sit down when in the boat unless told otherwise; mind your head; don't put your fingers over the edge of the boat where they might get squashed.

### **FOR ADULTS**

- For 2024, there will be a maximum of 30 children aged 5 to 12 on 1 January (oldest birth year for 2024 sailing season is 2011) accepted into Pirates. Only a safe number will be allowed to sail at any one time, depending on the conditions. Please note, the admission age for Pirates is in the process of increasing to bring Pirates in line with local RYA providers. Please see the admissions policy for more details.

- Each child must bring an adult who will help with and remain present during the session. Parents who are competent dinghy sailors are expected to help on the water. Those with Power Boat Level 2 will be expected to helm a safety boat (this certification is not required for crewing a safety boat). Help is also required on-land and help with launching and returning boats is essential. Previous Pirate parents will note that Shorehelper is no longer on the duty list. This is because the tasks covered by Shorehelper are tasks that all non-duty parents should be assisting with.

- The children will sail with an adult (or a more experienced child or young person) at first. Parents and children will always be asked if they are happy for the child to sail with this person.

- When the children are ready, they will be given the opportunity to sail alone, under close supervision.

- We are NOT a recognised RYA Training Centre. Many of our dedicated parent team are qualified sailing instructors with a wealth of experience. We take it in turns to take the

lead. Whilst there will not always be a qualified instructor leading the session, advice will be taken from RYA instructors and publications. The RYA book "Go Sailing" will be used as a basis for the advice given. Please note, we do not award RYA qualifications.

- Children may only sail if there are sufficient adults for safety, and suitable boats available. If necessary, priority will be given to children whose grown-up is able to help on the water or provide their own boat, or skipper. This is motivation for beginner-sailing parents to take advantage of the amazing and friendly support we have at the Club to progress your sailing, namely Tuesday night novices. You will be made very welcome.
- Sailing will take place in a safe area close to the club.
- Boats will use reefed or small sails depending on wind strength.
- Sailing will only take place if the weather condition is suitable.
- Safety details can be found here within the Pirates Risk Assessment within Club Documents on the member's site.
- All adults regularly attending Pirates should complete a EDSC Self-Disclosure Form, which is available along with the EDSC Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy within Club Documents on the member's site.

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