

## Eelgrass do's and don'ts:

- Do be aware of where the eelgrass beds are in the harbour.
- Do not surf within the eelgrass beds. It is an offence to recklessly cause damage to these areas that provide shelter or protection to a variety of species.
- Don't travel at high speeds that create significant wash in or near these areas.
- Don't trample the seabed in these areas.



20 New Quay Road,  
Poole BH15 4AF

Kitesurfers are solely responsible for their own safety and the safety of affected bystanders.

We have published this voluntary code of conduct, in conjunction with BKSA guidelines. PHC cannot be held liable for your actions.



[www.kitesurfing.org](http://www.kitesurfing.org)

Important information for  
harbour users

# KITESURFERS

KITESURFING CODE OF CONDUCT  
FOR POOLE HARBOUR



Poole Harbour Commissioners



## Poole Harbour

Poole Harbour is home to many varied waterborne activities, and being one of the largest estuaries in Britain with an enclosed, lagoonal character is also home to many diverse habitats and species that led it being designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

Whitley Lake in particular is extremely popular with Sailboarders and Kitesurfers. This is an ideal place to learn these sports. However this area is not without dangers to participants of these water sports, to others in the vicinity and also to the environment, it is for these reasons this Code of Conduct has been produced.

Kitesurfing is promoted in specified areas in and around Poole Harbour, similar to many sports which also have designated areas for practice. The promoted areas are Whitley Lake, Hamworthy Park, Bramble Bush Bay Studland and all beaches outside the harbour in suitable conditions. Kitesurfers are not permitted in the harbour entrance or any of the main shipping channels. (See local Notices to Mariners).

## Poole Harbour

- Kitesurfers must hold 3rd party liability insurance
- No launching, landing or riding within 100m of harbour wall
- Always use an effective primary and secondary kite safety system
- It is highly recommended that all Kitesurfers are members of the BKSA and have reached level 2 Independent Kitesurfer Level with a recognised school
- Be sure you can handle the prevailing conditions. Kitesurfing is not recommended in Whitley Lake in wind directions from North through East to South
- Always assist fellow Kitesurfers when launching and landing. Self launching and landing is not recommended
- A Kitesurfer must know the rules of navigation and abide by them
- Site Assessment on arrival as the area can get exceptionally busy both ashore and on the water. No matter how competent you are, or how good the conditions look, NEVER RISK THE SAFETY OF OTHERS

## Main eelgrass beds in Poole Harbour

