

## Risk Assessment – Kayaking ~ Isle of Wight (Sea)

<b>Baseline</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Site Specific</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Vulnerable Person</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Temporary</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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**Operating notes:**

- This risk assessment covers the use of kayaks in sheltered tidal water / sea (see BC terms of reference)
- Kayaking is an activity where participants get the opportunity to experience kayaking in both single and dual person craft
- This document must be used in conjunction with (all can be found at <http://kingswoodintranet/home/woodle>):
  - Watersports Operating procedures ~ Isle of Wight, which incorporates:
    - Supervision ratios and qualifications
    - Weather restrictions
    - Equipment levels and management
    - Site Specific information
  - Site Specific Risk Assessment ~ Isle of Wight (Sea) Watersports
  - Site Specific Training Plan
  - Kayaking Session Plan
  - Kayaking Training Plan
  - Observations Standards
  - Equipment Management Standards
  - Kingswood Safeguarding Portfolio

**Risk – Benefit Statement:** There is a low risk of injury / drowning Kayaking, but high levels of participation in a new activity and environment involving aerobic exercise and learning new skills, making the risk tolerable.

Hazard Description and activities giving rise to risk	Who may be harmed	Control Measures	Risk Rating
Manual handling injury from lifting and carrying equipment.	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brief and monitor correct manual handling techniques to the group managing the thumb rule of “if it’s bigger than you, carry for two”</li> <li>• Heavy equipment should be stored close to the launch areas to minimise the need for manual handling.</li> </ul>	Low
Tides, rips, currents and weather.	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The operating area as defined by the Watersports Site Manager will be marked with four marker buoys in the water.</li> </ul>	Low
Drowning - weak or non-swimmers	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All participants and Activity Leaders must wear a correctly fitted Buoyancy aid throughout the session</li> <li>• Brief the group on to use the craft as a floatation device if they are nervous.</li> <li>• The Activity Leaders must place themselves in position of maximum visibility.</li> <li>• The Activity Leaders must keep a constant head count.</li> </ul>	Med
Poor group control	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brief the participants in the safe kayak zone and marker buoy boundaries.</li> <li>• Brief the participants in control signs, signals and dangers including, “come to me / go there”, “one person”, “all people” and “Exit Immediately”.</li> <li>• The Activity Leader must position themselves to ensure the students do not drift outside of the safe kayak zone boundary as marked out by buoys.</li> </ul>	Med
Head or facial injuries	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All participants and Activity Leaders must wear a correctly fitted Helmet throughout the session</li> <li>• Brief the participants to enter the water holding the craft to their sides so not to be knocked by incoming waves</li> <li>• Brief the participants on how to fall effectively including the “Capsize” drill</li> <li>• All Activity Leaders and participants must wear a helmet. A full turban is an acceptable alternative, but be careful of loose cloth becoming entangled in equipment or apparatus.</li> </ul>	Low