



## **RYA Powerboat Course Level 1**

**Aim:** To provide a practical introduction into boat handling and safety in powerboats.

**Assumed Knowledge:** No previous knowledge required

**Duration:** 1 day

**Minimum age:** 8

8-11 year olds will receive the Level 1 certificate which will be endorsed – **the holder should only use powered craft under the supervision of a responsible adult on board the craft.**

12-16 year olds will receive the Level 1 certificate which will be endorsed – **the holder should only use powered craft under the supervision of a responsible adult.**

### **SECTION A**

#### **Practical Boat Handling**

##### **Launch and Recovery (8-11 year olds should observe this session only)**

**Knowledge of:**

- Considerations to be taken during the launch
- The use of a trailer or launching trolley
- Considerations to be taken regarding sea conditions and hazards
- Construction, width and condition of ramps/slipway

##### **Preparation of Boat and Crew**

**Understands:**

- Personal buoyancy and appropriate clothing
- The use of the following equipment: lines, fenders, anchor and warp, bailer, fire extinguisher, pump, paddles or oars, compass, flares, torch, whistle, charts, first aid kit and sharp knife.

**Can:**

- Perform the following: fasten to a cleat and stow an anchor

##### **Boat Handling**

**Knowledge of:**

- Planing boats: propeller angle and immersion, use of shallow drive
- Low speed handling: ahead and astern
- Displacement boats: handling ahead and astern, carrying way in neutral

**Understands:**

- How to carry out pre-start checks, including fuel tank and fuel bulb
- Steering controls and windage

**Can:**

- Steer and control the boat speed

- Start and stop the engine
- Demonstrate the use of an appropriate length kill cord at all times

### **Picking up and securing to a mooring buoy**

#### **Knowledge of:**

- Preparation of mooring warps
- Use of a boat hook
- Method of approach
- Crew communication
- Making fast

### **Leaving and coming alongside:**

#### **Knowledge of:**

- Wind effect
- Approach in tidal stream or current

#### **Understands:**

- Leaving – ahead or astern

#### **Can:**

- Demonstrate the use of painter, lines and fenders, attachment to boat, stowage under way
- Control speed and angle of approach
- Make fast alongside

### **Being Towed:**

#### **Knowledge of:**

- Preparing own lines for towing
- Accepting a tow
- Securing tow lines
- Trim and balance under tow

## **SECTION B**

### **THEORY**

#### **Knowledge of:**

- Loading and balancing the boat and the effect on handling and performance
- Local Byelaws and Insurance

#### **Understands:**

- Crew numbers: minimum number in the boat, keeping a look-out
- Awareness of other water users, including effect of wash
- Application of IRPCS. Understands rules 5, 6 and conduct around commercial shipping in confined waters.