



STONAR

## Stonar Riding Lesson

Terms & Conditions  
(Updated 09.04.2025)

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### **A GENERAL**

- 1 One term's notice in writing will be required to terminate riding lessons or one term's riding lesson charges in lieu of notice will be due. Parents must complete the Cancellation Form (available from the Equestrian Centre) and return to [ridingoffice@stonarschool.com](mailto:ridingoffice@stonarschool.com) to notify of the change.
- 2 Credits will not be given unless there are exceptional circumstances.
- 3 Riding lesson charges are based on 10 lessons per term, but pupils may receive more or fewer than 10 lessons in any one term depending on the length of the term. Any additional charges or credits due as a result will be applied to the following term's fee invoice.
- 4 Stonar's insurance policy covers 3rd Party Public Liability and Personal Accident for pupils.
- 5 Pupils may bring in their own horses/ponies for lessons and may use a stable for the day (providing that the yard is not full) at no extra charge. Stables should be booked in advance by contacting the Equestrian Centre. Any feed and hay must be brought in with the horse/pony and the stable must be mucked out on departure (or a charge may be incurred). All horses visiting the yard must be up to date with their six monthly Equine Influenza booster and a copy of the relevant pages of the passport given to the Riding Office prior to the first visit.
- 6 Horses/ponies brought in for lessons will be assessed for suitability to encourage safe learning and progression within the group.
- 7 No lessons will take place during the first week of the new Academic year to reduce yard traffic, allow new horses to settle, and new liveries to be observed by staff.
- 8 Stonar Equestrian Centre should be notified of any medical conditions or factors which may affect a pupil's riding lessons.
- 9 By signing the Rider Registration form you are acknowledging that riding is a high risk sport and participation may hold potential danger, and that all horses may react unpredictably on occasions.
- 10 The Equestrian Centre may refuse your request to ride for safety and operational reasons.

### **B ABSENCE**

1. Where possible notify the Riding Office in advance if a pupil cannot attend a lesson.
2. Stonar will only make up a missed lesson if the pupil is representing the school at a sports or other fixture, or if the pupil is on a compulsory school trip or taking an exam. In these cases, notice must be given to the Equestrian Centre in advance.

### **C RIDER WEIGHT AND HORSE WELFARE**

1. In line with current best practice recommendations and British Horse Society/Animal Health Trust advice and research, each of our horses has a specific weight limit. Therefore, it is important that an accurate weight is given when completing the rider registration paperwork. Matching riders and

horses is based on a number of factors, which include rider height, weight and ability, temperament of horse, and suitability/progression.

2. In order to ensure we allocate horses to riders correctly, the Equestrian Centre will weigh riders at the start of the school year in September, and again around Easter. Riders may be in school or riding uniform for this but will not need to wear boots or helmets, and should remove shoes beforehand.
3. Any riders who are over 12st7lbs/80kg may be limited in the variety of school horses we can offer them to ride. Riders over 13st7lbs/88kg may have their riding limited or curtailed if horse welfare becomes of concern.
4. Riders who are close to the upper weight limit of the horses available will be referred to HWBC for advice and assistance in weight management, if appropriate. Similarly, if a rider has gained or lost a significant amount of weight between checks, this will be highlighted to HWBC staff to follow up and monitor pupil welfare.
5. Riders who bring their own horse to Stonar will have their horse assessed and a weight limit for that horse determined. The above weighing procedure will allow the Equestrian Centre to identify when a rider begins to outgrow their horse, and discuss with parents.

## **D DRESS FOR RIDING**

1. A protective helmet (for riding and turning out) that complies with the current required Health and Safety standards is required. Hats must have been correctly fitted by a reputable saddler (and up to the current UK safety standards). Please be aware that some retailers' hats do not comply with current standards. Hats will be checked on a regular basis. Any hat not found to be of the correct standard will be confiscated, as will hats that are damaged or weak.
2. Long hair should be neatly secured in a hair band or hairnet.
3. A Stonar Equestrian Centre fleece, polo shirt or sweatshirt.
4. A long sleeved cross country shirt is recommended for cross country lessons and a skull cap is required.
5. Jodhpurs or breeches in navy.
6. A pair of dark coloured riding gloves.
7. A body protector is recommended for show jumping and is compulsory for cross country. A body protector must be fitted by a reputable saddler (and up to current UK safety standards).
8. Black or brown riding boots, preferably jodhpur boots (most comfortable and easiest to ride in). Half chaps may be worn with jodhpur boots; they protect the lower leg, prevent from rubbing and also help to keep the rider's leg in the correct position whilst riding. Half chaps must be black or brown only, tassels are not allowed. Long rubber boots are not ideal for a younger rider as they make it difficult for the rider to put the leg in the correct position and therefore apply the correct aids. They may also be uncomfortable.
9. A Stonar Equestrian Centre coat is necessary when riding outside in the winter (soft shell coats may be purchased from Schoolblazer, and waterproof jackets may be purchased from the Riding Office) and must be fastened at all times, in order not to flap and frighten the horse.
10. Jewellery is not allowed.
11. Ensure all rider clothing and equipment is clearly labelled.

## **E FORBIDDEN DRESS ON THE YARD**

1. Trainers and soft sole shoes
2. vest tops;
3. jewellery;
4. jogging bottoms;
5. scarves; and
6. earphones/airpods.

## **F CHANGING FOR RIDING**

1. Pupils must change into and from riding clothes as near to the lesson time as possible. Pupils must travel to and from school in school uniform unless they have an early lesson and there is not time to change beforehand.

## **G CONDUCT IN A LESSON**

1. The lesson atmosphere needs to be one of tolerance and respect for others with a positive and industrious learning environment where good behaviour is normal practice. The beginning of each lesson will be formal.
2. Pupils should remain silent when the member of staff/instructor is addressing the whole group.
3. Group discussion should be at conversation pitch – rowdy groups will be disbanded.
4. If required to work independently and quietly this should also be adhered to when the member of staff is dealing with individual problems; the rest of the group should be patient.
5. Pupils must accept the above rules. Unruly pupils will be clearly warned of the consequences of misbehaviour.
6. Checks will be made as to why pupils are late.
7. Correct dress is expected and non-uniform outer clothing or jewellery will be requested to be removed.

## **H CONDUCT ON THE YARD**

A quiet relaxed atmosphere is essential for the horses' well being.

1. No running, shouting or screaming.
2. No mobile phones, earpods or headphones
3. No radios.
4. No smoking on the yard (including visitors and parents of livery owners).
5. Litter must be placed in the bins provided.
6. All gates must be shut at all times including field gates, even if they were already open.

## **I SAFEGUARDING**

1. In order to ensure the welfare of pupils, access to the yard by anyone other than staff members, pupils, parents and school approved farriers, vets, practitioners and instructors is restricted. The following procedures are in place for adults/family members visiting the yard:-
  - a. The beginning and end of term (and half-term) are recognised as times in the school year when pupils may have a significant quantity of equipment to be moved between the yard and home, and at these times parents/guardians are granted access to the Equestrian Centre.
  - b. Parents/guardians will of course be encouraged to watch their own children riding in their scheduled lessons. In order to facilitate this, all adult visitors to the Equestrian Centre are

asked to report to the Riding Office on arrival to sign in.

- c. During weekdays, parents/guardians will be accommodated on the yard between 4.00pm and 5.00pm. Again, please sign in at the Riding Office.
- d. At weekends, parents/guardians will be encouraged to visit the yard between 10.00am and 12.00pm, and between 3.00pm and 5.00pm.
- e. Adult visitors to the Equestrian Centre may not enter either of the two riding arenas without first gaining permission from the senior member of staff on duty at the time.
- f. Adults visiting pupils at the Equestrian Centre are expected to respect the School's no-smoking policy.
- g. The use of video recorders and cameras at the Equestrian Centre is not permitted without the express permission of the Director of Riding.
- h. External suppliers or contractors are permitted only with permission from the Director of Riding.