

Code of Conduct for Adults/Parents/Spectators



Adults can have a big influence on a child's enjoyment, success and perspective of a sport. Children take up riding because they have a love of ponies and it can help to build their confidence and self-esteem. However, they all learn at different rates, have different levels of ability and have widely varying aims and ambitions within the sport.

Adults who are supporting their children's participation must remember to lead by example, as their child will be influenced by attitudes and behaviours seen in their parents. As a result, parents are reminded to show:

- Respect for other riders/competitors/show officials/instructors/members of staff/parents;
- Appropriate language and manners;
- Empathy and encouragement for those who are struggling;
- Consideration for the welfare and happiness of the ponies;
- Enthusiasm for participation and effort;
- Respect for the instructor and to refrain from interfering in a lesson/coaching session (even though your intentions may be good, it is distracting to riders and can be counter-productive);
- Respect for the wishes of their child and the child's own aims and ambitions.

In addition to the sportsmanship ethic above, please note the following requirements of adults/parents at HMSEA:

- Parents/adults are welcome to watch lessons, but to comply with both health and safety and child protection guidelines, adults must sign in and out of the facility if they wish to stay and watch.
- Do not enter the riding arena unless requested to do so by an instructor or member of staff – even if your child has had an accident and you are watching, please wait to be called in – this is for the welfare and safety of all.
- Please do not walk alongside either side of the arena without the express permission of the instructor – spectators are asked to stay at the viewing gallery end of the arena.
- Parents/Guardians/Visitors are asked to keep any visiting children under close control and make sure that all children are reminded not to run/scream/shout/play in the vicinity of the arena.
- Parents must collect their child from the HMSEA office in person at the end of a half or full day activity as we will not send children out to cars. Please report directly to the office if coming to collect your child.
- If you are not collecting your own child and are sending an alternative adult (including nannies etc.), please notify us in advance.
- If your child is not coming to their riding lesson, please notify us as soon as possible (please also see the cancellation policy).
- No Photos or videos are to be taken without the express permission of the instructor or member of staff in charge and must only be of your child (except in special circumstances). If other children are evident in the background or in exceptional group photographs then these **MUST NOT BE POSTED ON SOCIAL MEDIA SITES.**
- Please do not bring dogs onto the property.
- If you have any questions or concerns about anything to do with HMSEA, please get in touch with us directly so that we can ensure a productive, safe and enjoyable time for yourself and/or your child.
- Please notify any adults who are coming to collect your child/watch a lesson/spectate at any activities we may be running that they are also bound by this code of conduct and advise them of the contents therein.

All adults are asked to abide by the above guidelines and set a good example to the future of the sport.