



Equine Partners CIC Horse Welfare Policy

This behaviour code outlines the policies relating to the welfare of the horses involved in the project. It will apply to everyone who comes on to the site or otherwise has contact with the horses. This includes all staff and volunteers from Equine Partners CIC and staff from other organisations also all children and young people and Families who visit Equine Partners CIC and its activities. It relates to all horses whether owned by, or on loan to, or visiting Equine Partners CIC

Purpose

Following this code will help to protect the horses from mistreatment. It will also help staff and volunteers to maintain the standard of behaviour expected of them and will reduce the possibility of unfounded allegations of animal cruelty being made against them.

Upholding this code of behaviour

All members of staff and volunteers are expected to report any breaches of this code to Jo Hibberd Horse Welfare lead for Equine Partners CIC under the whistle-blowing procedure. Staff and volunteers who breach this code of behaviour may be subject to Equine Partners CIC's disciplinary procedures. Any breach of the code involving a volunteer or member of staff from another agency may result in them being asked to leave Equine Partners CIC.

Serious breaches may also result in a referral being made to a statutory agency such as the police or the RSPCA

The role of staff and volunteers

When working with horses for Equine Partners CIC, all staff and volunteers are acting in a position of trust. It is important that staff and volunteers are aware that they may be seen as role models by children and young people and behave with respect for the horses at all times.

When working with the horses, it is important to:

1. Operate within Equine Partners CIC's principles and guidance and follow any and all instructions given by Jo, Liz and Fran
2. Horses will be handled using Natural Horsemanship techniques at all times
3. Horses will not be fed treats or snacks of any type
4. Horses will be respected and not forced to perform in a way that threatens their dignity or wellbeing
5. Do not enter any area which contains a horse with out express permission from an Equine Partners CIC authorized official (currently Jo Liz or Fran)

Care of Horses

1. All horses will receive annual inoculations and dental checks
2. They will be weighed regularly and their weight monitored.

3. Horses will be fed appropriate diets, including any necessary supplements
4. Equine Partners CIC will ensure that they have access to water at all times
5. Equine Partners CIC will ensure that all tack is maintained in a good condition and fits the horse it is used on.
6. All horses will be trained and handled using Natural Horsemanship methods

Monitoring and review

The manager is responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of the Policy and Guidelines via staff observations and feedback and consultation with children and their parents/legal guardians and colleagues.

This policy will be reviewed on 1st January 2019

Signatures F A Hibberd

Date 1st January 2018