

Environmental Policy

The environment is an important part of our philosophy and we are committed to reducing the impact that our company, learners and staff have on the environment as well as setting an example ourselves and educating people about how their behaviour might impact on the environment and wildlife.

By keeping the natural environment at the heart of everything we do, we can have a positive influence on the behaviour and understanding of our learners, staff and others involved with the organisation.

We will not:

- knowingly introduce any contaminants to the land (such as crumbed rubber from the automotive industry or nylon carpet fibre)
- use neonicotinoids, insecticides, rodenticides or other chemicals which are known to have or could have a detrimental effect on wildlife such as bees, butterflies, amphibians, water quality, owls, birds and other animals
- not contaminate water courses with run off from manure heaps.

We will:

- use faecal worm egg counts to ensure that we limit the likelihood of wormer resistance in our herds and do not mass medicate our horses
- dispose of chemicals, such as wormers, in a way that limits the impact on the environment
- use native plants and hedging in preference to non-native species whenever possible
- eliminate our own use of plastic, especially single-use plastic whenever possible, including items such as teabags, wet wipes, disposable coffee cups, pre-packaged fruit and veg and educate others about the impact of plastics on the environment
- choose food that is free from palm oil
- use computerised technology whenever possible
- use every possible opportunity to educate learners, staff and others about the impact of their behaviour on the environment
- reduce, re-use and recycle as much as possible
- maintain sustainable stocking densities with the horses to limit the impact on the environment (Defra guidelines are 2.5 acres per 500kg horse)
- ensure that the visual impact of running a centre is as close to zero as possible. This means using materials that blend with the natural environment, not using white electric tape, coloured fence posts, removing all coloured plastic items from pasture
- ensure that information and guidance is available on our website:
www.equineassistedqualifications.com
- encourage all staff and learners to use the website rather than paper-based communications
- use both sides of paper and re-use envelopes
- turn off electrical items and lights when not in use
- encourage staff to work from home or close to home to reduce the need for travelling
- encourage the use of public transport / car sharing for those attending regional or national meetings such as standardisation with awarding organisation.

Director's signature: Tricia Day

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Last reviewed on: 31st August 2018

Next review due: 31st August 2021