

<b>Date of issue</b>	2021	<b>Reviewed</b>	Sept 2024	<b>Next review</b>	Sept 2026	<b>Approved by</b>	Management
<b>For</b>	Employees, volunteers, students, visitors, members, referrers						



## Environment Policy

Ride High and Ride High Equestrian Centre, collectively referred to as the “Company”, in this document, are committed to providing a safe environment for staff and visitors, to protecting the natural environment and to minimising the wasteful use of natural resources. We recognise that our activities have an impact on the environment and are committed to reducing these impacts. We will do this by undertaking the following:

### Promoting efficient energy management and utilisation

The activities undertaken outdoor are not energy dependent. However, the heating and lighting of indoor areas across the site is monitored to ensure efficient energy management whilst maintaining comfortable working environments for staff, volunteers, service users and visitors. Electricity is primarily used for lighting, equipment, space heating and kitchen appliances. Oil is used for space and water heating.

There are a number of different buildings on site for various uses. These include offices, training rooms, activity rooms, indoor arena, toilets, stables and tack/feed rooms, all of which are occupied some of the time. Staff and visitors are encouraged to switch lights and heaters off and shut down electronic devices when they leave an area or when they depart in the evening. Stickers on lights asking people to switch off lights are effective as a reminder.

The installation of the following upgrades to the Manor house has contributed to energy efficiencies:

- Secondary double glazing
- Replacement roof, including insulation
- New, more fuel efficient boiler and central heating system.

Children are transported to and from their homes and schools each day, time and distance are considered during the collation of drive lists are to ensure maximum fuel efficiency.

### Monitoring water usage and encouraging water conservation

Water is used for drinking, cleaning, and dust suppression in arenas and for domestic use. As a finite resource, water needs to be protected as well as managed efficiently. The following measures seek to ensure those efficiencies are made where possible:

- Taps and water systems across the site are regularly inspected to ensure that any leaks or drips are quickly resolved.
- All stables contain automatic water drinkers.

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- Equestrian centre staff are reminded to reduce water wastage whilst bathing horses by turning taps off.
- Washing machines and dishwashers are only used when full.

### **Managing waste and developing recycling initiatives**

Waste is segregated, which means that recyclable and reusable wastes are separated from non-reusable/recyclable waste and are therefore diverted from landfill. This is facilitated by on-site resources such as waste bins for segregating at source.

The following waste management initiatives support the drive for efficiencies across the site:

- Where possible, rubber matting is used in the stables, thereby reducing the amount of pellets needed for bedding, which in turn reduces the amount of waste that needs to be disposed of.
- Manure is removed from site and composted for use as a fertiliser.
- Where possible the company purchases supplies in bulk, reducing the amount of packaging waste you have to dispose of. This includes:
  - Bulk delivery of feeds
  - Bulk delivery of bedding materials
  - The use of a returnable pallet system for deliveries
- Where possible printing must be double sided.
- The move towards a paper free working environment with the introduction of electronic systems and processes.
- Resources are reused where possible, alternatives to purchasing new equipment are sought in the first instance.

### **Communicating this policy and relevant environmental procedures to staff, and visitors.**

This policy is shared with staff and volunteers during the induction process and a record of receipt is logged. It is publicly available on request.

The environmental policy is defined by the Board of Trustees and Management of the organisation and provides the framework for setting and reviewing environmental objectives and targets.

### **Approval and review**

This Environment Policy was approved by the management team. It will be reviewed bi-annually, or more frequently if appropriate.