

FRESHFIELDS EQUESTRIAN CENTRE
Longford Market Drayton Shropshire TF9 3PW
Tel: 01630 652495
www.ridingschool.org.uk email: info@ridingschool.org.uk

Why should you ride at Freshfields?

Freshfields is a professionally run centre with a relaxed friendly atmosphere. We aim to produce riders of all ages that can look forward to many happy hours of enjoyment riding and caring for horses.

We are British Horse Society Approved

This is your guarantee of the highest quality facilities and instruction available.

We own all our own horses

Many riding schools use “working livery” horses in their lessons. These horses are not owned by the centre and so they have very little control over how much work that horse does, and how well schooled they are. All our horses are owned by ourselves or are long term loan to us. This means that we have total control over them. All our horses and ponies have been handpicked for the job. All our horses and ponies are regularly schooled by staff members and have a varied work load to ensure that they don't become stale and unresponsive.

We monitor our group size

We keep group lessons to a maximum of eight riders, preferring when possible to limit them to six riders. Lead rein groups are for a maximum of four riders.

Our facilities

Where you ride is important all our schools are purpose built. They are safely fenced and set in pleasant surroundings overlooking local countryside. Our indoor arena is also purpose built.

Our instructors

All our instructors ensure that learning is combined with enjoyment. All our staff are involved in a regular training program which ensures that they keep up to date with the latest teaching techniques. Most staff are qualified in first aid and child protection to give you extra reassurance.

Pony Club

Freshfields is part of the Pony Club centre membership scheme. Children can join in the many activities, badges and tests that we run for pony club members.

What Should I Wear?

If you have not ridden before, or at least for sometime, you should please note the following requirements for riding at Freshfields.

Hats

Hats must comply to the current B.S..I standard (BSEN 1384/PAS015) and must carry a British kite mark; they must be worn when mounted correctly fitted and fastened. We can hire you a hat for your first few lessons at a charge of £1.00 per session. It is expected that you have your own hat by the time you join a group lesson.

If you have a riding hat, bring it along and ask your instructor to check it for current standards.

PLEASE BE VERY CAUTIOUS ABOUT PURCHASING HATS FROM LOW COST SUPERMARKETS. THEY ARE NOT KITE MARKED AND WILL NOT HAVE BEEN PROFESSIONALLY FITTED. EVEN THE MOST EXPENSIVE OF HATS ARE USELESS IF INCORRECTLY FITTED

Footwear

Riding boots or Jodhpur boots ideally should be worn, however, any closed toe flat shoe or boot with a smooth sole and a small heel would be acceptable. Trainers are not acceptable, so please don't turn up in them expecting to ride. They are unsafe.

RIDING IS NOT PERMITTED IN TRAINERS UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES

Lower Body

Thick leggings or trousers that offer freedom of movement. Jeans have been known to cause friction. Legs must be covered at all times i.e. no shorts or skirts.

Upper Body

Clothing should be suitable for the weather conditions. Arms should be covered no riding will permitted in vest type tops no matter how hot.

Hands

We strongly recommend that riding gloves are worn whenever riding.

Jewellery

No jewellery should be worn whilst riding or handling horses. The only exceptions are the wearing of a wedding ring and watch.

Ultimately it is your responsibility to be dressed correctly in accordance with the above information before riding.

2010 Price List

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1 hour group lesson off peak & peak	£20.00
½ hour tots trot or starter group	£13.00
½ hour private off peak	£20.00
½ hour private peak	£25.00
1hr private off peak	£30.00
1hr private peak	£35.00
½ hour semi Private (2-3 riders) off peak	£17.00
½ hour semi Private (2-3 riders) peak	£20.00
1 hour semi Private (2-3 riders) off peak	£25.00
1 hour semi Private (2-3 riders) peak	£30.00
Hire of Hat	£1.00
Hire of Body Protector	£1.50

Peak hours from 5pm Tues – Thurs and all day Saturday & Sunday

We accept payment by cash, cheque, credit or debit card.
Please note for amounts under £50.00 there will be a 50p charge if paying by
cheque, or card.

Monthly discount scheme available-please ask for details

Booking Lessons Payment & 48 Hour Cancellation Policy

Booking your lesson

You may book your lesson in person or over the telephone; your first lesson must be paid for at time of booking. This will form the basis of a contract between us. All future lessons must be paid for on arrival before your lesson commences. You will be given a ticket which shows that you have paid for your lesson. This ticket must be then given to your instructor.

Notice of cancellation required

Lesson On a:	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Cancel by:	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday

Cancellation Charges

Notice given to Freshfields	24 hours or less	24 – 48 hours	Over 48 hours
Cancellation Charge	Full lesson or activity fee payable	A late cancellation fee of £10.00	No charge

The above charges will be strictly adhered to. We understand that sickness or unseen events cannot always be predicted, but each lesson or activity is planned in advanced horses have to be prepared and instructors paid.

If you have a serious valid medical reason (not colds, flu, headache etc) to cancel or not turn up we may be prepared to accept this on a case by case basis.

Repeated late cancellations may result in termination of your contract with us.

Freshfields Canceling lessons

You will agree that under very exceptional circumstances we may have to cancel your lesson and re-arrange.

e.g. staff or horse illness

Payment

We accept payment by cash, cheque (with valid bankers card) credit & debit cards.

All lessons/activities must be paid for before the start of the lesson/activity.

Frequently Asked Questions

Your initial assessment/lesson...

If you can already ride and wish to work towards a specific goal you should inform your instructor at the start of the lesson. As a rider, we treat this initial lesson as an assessment and will record your assessment on your client registration form. If you are new to riding, we will run through some of the basics with you in your first lesson

Where next

If you are working towards a specific goal we will recommend a course of action for you and try our best to help you achieve it. If you are new to riding, we recommend a course of 5 private lessons. At the end of these we will assess your ability to join a beginner group lesson, or if you prefer you can carry on with private lessons. For children we also run group starter lead rein lessons.

As a beginner how quickly will I progress?

There is no hard and fast rule for this. Some progress quickly and some more slowly. As a rule, the first 5 lessons will give you an indication of how quickly you are moving. This is, however, no guide as to how good a rider you will become. We aim to have all riders, presuming they attend weekly, doing walk, trot and canter in good style after 12 months. Some may well progress to jumping within this time, but riding horses is a different experience every time and experience is what really counts.

I am worried about falling off..

The old saying is that you are not a rider until you have fallen off! We don't necessarily agree with this, however, you will fall off and it is a matter of **when** rather than **if**. We would like to think that the horses we select for you in your first few lessons are very safe and that you should not fall. Horses are living animals however, and anything is possible. This risk factor is a lot of the fun in riding. If you don't like taking any risk, then horse riding is not for you.

Statistically the chances of you sustaining a serious injury in the confines of the riding school environment are very slim. You should bear in mind that falling from any height will hurt – the way in which you fall is the most important factor in whether you injure yourself or not.

What about insurance...

Our insurance cover is not in place to pay you money in the event you sustain injury whilst riding a horse. This is a calculated risk which you take and we strongly recommend that you take out personal accident insurance (as you would if skiing) if you intend on keeping up with your riding lessons.

How to book: Bookings are taken either directly at reception, or by telephone 01630 652495. All new clients must pay for their lesson at time of booking. When booking please bear in mind that after 16.00 and weekends get very busy.

Cancellations: We require a minimum of 48 hours notice for a cancellation. Full details of our cancellation policy are clearly set out in a separate document included in this information pack.

Bad Weather: Riding is an outdoor sport, we ride in all weather accept very high winds, if we have to cancel your lesson we will phone you. It cannot be guaranteed that your lesson will be in the indoor school.

Riding Client Registration Form

Personal Details

Name:	Date of Birth:
Address:	Height:
	Weight:
Home/mobile Telephone No:	Email:
Please give details of any medical conditions or medication taken which may, in your opinion, affect your ability to ride a horse. Or which your instructor should be aware of in case of an emergency (e.g diabetes)	
Have you ever suffered a serious injury while riding, or have been advised not to ride? YES/NO	
Emergency Contact Information:	
Where did you see Freshfields advertised? Local paper/ Yellow Pages/ Internet search/ Recommendation/Other	

Riding Abilities

In the last 12 months I have ridden		I consider myself to be	
Never		Beginner	
Less than 5		Novice	
5- 10		Intermediate	
10+		Advanced	
I consider my personal ability to be (tick all that apply)			
Never Ridden		Hacking – Walk & Trot	
Trotting with stirrups		Hacking – Fast Canter/Gallop	
Trotting without stirrups		Riding over jumps to 2ft	
Cantering		Riding over jumps to 3ft	

Instructors Assessment

Horse	Date	Time	
My assessment:		Assessment Content:	
Complete Beginner (lead/lunge)		Walk	
Beginner Walk & Trot off lead		Trot	
Novice Walk Trot & Canter		Canter	
Intermediate Jump to 2ft		W/O stirrups	
Advanced Jump to 3ft stage 2 +		Jump	
Instructor comments			
Instructor's signature and date:			

Important Information

1. **Horse riding is a risk sport, participation therefore holds potential danger. I accept this risk personally or on behalf of the person for which I am signing.**
2. Horses are sometimes unpredictable and do not always respond as expected.
3. We require all persons participating in any equestrian activity at the centre to ensure that they have adequate personal accident insurance.
4. We allocate horses to the riders taking into account their experience and suitability, however, all riders retain the right not to ride a horse allocated to them.
5. All clients must wear a hat to the current BSI standard with kitemark when riding.
6. All clients are required to wear suitable footwear (smooth sole with small heel) and to wear gloves when riding.
7. Clients are required not to wear jewellery of any description when riding or in the stable area.
8. Clients are required to inform Freshfields if any information given above alters.
9. All instructors are trained and competent to teach to their detailed level. All clients retain the right to request a change of instructor.
10. Freshfields retain the right to terminate a clients contract without notice or reason.
11. I understand the cancellation policy of the centre and agree to abide by it.
12. If you forget to sign this form, it is considered signed once the session commences.

Data Protection Act

By signing this form you consent to Freshfields Equestrian Centre using the information we may hold about you for the purpose of your business with the centre if any, and to process sensitive personal data about you where this is necessary. This may mean we have to give some details to third parties involved, for instance the ambulance service if you were to become injured at the centre. We will also use the information for the purpose of internal auditing of client activities and may from time to time mail you offers or contact you regarding your usage of the centre. The information you have provided will be treated in confidence and in compliance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

Acceptance

I declare that the details I have supplied above are correct and that it is my obligation to inform the centre of any changes that may occur, especially in relation to my ability to ride. Further to this, I have read the information above and accept the personal risk this activity entails. Signing this form does not affect my statutory rights. Upon signing, this form becomes the basis of the contract between Freshfields Equestrian Centre and myself or dependants. I must obey the instructions of the instructor and comply with the Health and Safety requirement of the centre at all times.

Freshfields may occasionally take photographs of lessons and activities, for use on the website and advertising. If you or your dependants would prefer not to appear on advertising material please mark the box

To be signed by parent or guardian if client is under 18 years old

Client Signature: X

Date: