

# CHESTON FARM EQUESTRIAN CENTRE FACT SHEET & GUIDE PRICES - 2019

## **A great team of instructors, lovely horses, superb indoor and outdoor arenas and Dartmoor!**

We are lucky to have it all here at Cheston! Read on to discover what we offer at Cheston and whether we can fulfil your riding ambitions whatever they may be!

### **What is Cheston's approach to teaching?**

Our approach to teaching is based on quality, safety and detailed instruction: our ambition is to make you confident and successful in the saddle and hone your skills to reach your best! We love you to have goals or a competition to aim for. We are popular with regular riders, adults and the more committed child and teen rider as well as those who bring their own horse. Our yard is ideal for enjoyment of your leisure time with great facilities, an indoor and two outdoor arenas and our clubhouse/café for coffee and bacon sarnies! Our horses are all owned by the Centre, well loved, valued and appreciated!

### **When are you open?**

We are open 9am – late, 7 days a week including most public holidays, although we don't teach on Christmas day. We have a lot of flexibility in what lessons are available – to get a flavour, see our lesson timetable. There are set sessions also for those looking for a weekly group on weekdays, evenings and weekends.

### **Do you teach children?**

**Child Weight Limits: up to 12: 9st/57kg / Child 12-16: 11stone/70kg**

Children can start riding with us from the age of 5, and we offer a range of opportunities depending on their age and ability. Most of our younger children ride our ponies in our small group / Pony Club sessions where they can enjoy mixing with other youngsters learning to care for and ride the ponies. Children are on a lead rein or lunge rein until they are confident and balanced enough to be more independent. Advanced and confident children have numerous options

### **Do I need to be physically fit to ride?**

We have teaching methods and horses to accommodate various levels of fitness. If you are capable of a brisk walk with a dog then you are probably fit enough to ride. For the comfort of our horses we have a weight limit of 13 stone (82kg) in ladies although tall heavier men up to 14stone (90kg) can be accommodated by our giant 17hh hunters.

### **What riding lessons do you offer?**

We offer a range of options from 30 min (child) to one hour shared, small group lessons, semi-private and private lessons to suit a range of abilities and pockets. Call to arrange a tour and observe a lesson. The clubhouse has refreshments to purchase with viewing on to the indoor arena or a sun soaked deck on to the 20x40 arena. Just call the office.

**Teens & Adults: New beginners or Novice riders:** You will start on lunge rein if necessary. First lesson is £40 for 1 hour private and £50 thereafter (we have a bulk buy off peak deal). A private assessment lesson is required before offering you lesson options (£32-£35) according to your ability. Adult beginner riders need to commit to regular private lessons to ensure your progression and move you on quickly past the basics.

**Younger Children:** Children may ride in a private starter lessons but mainly we offer a range of small well managed group options. We have a Mini, Half Day and Full Day Pony Club for our regular young riders and 30-45min group lessons. Prices start from £22. See the Pony Club page on the website for more information.

**Intermediate/Advanced Riders:** We can accommodate teen/adult riders at all higher levels whether leisure, competitive or BHS Career Pathway riders including on our advanced horses. We regularly run specialist lessons for those wishing to improve their dressage and jumping ability or compete too. Gallop moorland hacks are also offered to advanced riders. In winter, we offer a mid-week winter hack option for just £22-£25 to exercise any of our youngsters or faster horses.

## How do I book a lesson?

We ask you to call us to make bookings. This allows us to understand your needs and advise what opportunities are appropriate for you. Because we are out working during the day, please be prepared to leave a message and we'll call you back. Please note: We can rarely accommodate group beginner lessons such as school, youth or large party groups or take beginners on Dartmoor. Our group size is usually 5-6 riders.

## Cancellation Notice of 48hours applies to your booking

**Phone Sophie / Office: 01364 388188 – you may need to leave a message. We do much prefer bookings by phone.**

## Do you offer moorland hacks?

Oh yes, but, we are seriously big on safety and passionate about teaching the correct and essential principles of riding and horsemanship whilst making the experience safe, relaxing and fun. There is a page on the website with information.

We offer moorland hacks to pre-assessed customers either well known to us or seen to be experienced enough riders clearly competent to enjoy riding out safely. For your own safety you must be able to canter competently to ride on Dartmoor, we therefore do not offer trekking for beginners or take holiday makers on the moors unless you are pre-assessed as competent in canter. Advanced longer gallop hacks and beach riding are offered to advanced riders.

## What are your ambitions for your riders?

We want to prepare you for a lifetime of enjoying horses, skilfully, naturally and based on correct equitation - perhaps being a horse owner yourself one day. We will train you to understand horse psychology, be able to influence and understand your horse through body language and through your skills both in handling equipment and whilst in the saddle. This translates to practical skills such as getting to know the horses, being assertive around the horse on the ground, able to groom and saddle up your horse, lead your horse in walk and trot and be confident adjusting your equipment – all whilst under the supervision of our qualified adult staff and owner/manager Sophie Osborne BHSII. You will be 'horse wise' both in and out of the saddle and learn to feel at home around these big beautiful creatures!

## Guidelines Prices - please see main price list

**updated 2019**

Please note: lesson time starts in the stable with basic handling of equipment

### TEENS/ADULTS: Age 12+

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|--|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> First Lesson: initial registration/assessment lesson 1hr. Aimed at teen and over            | £40     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 hour subsequent private lessons or instructional / private hack                           | £50     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 hour semi-private lesson/hack – limited to 2 riders (eg: friends)                         | £40     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 hour shared lessons for 2- 3 teen/adult riders, may revert to £40 private (Flexi-lessons) | £36     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 hour evening group lesson / hack (2- 6 riders only)                                       | £33     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hacks. Depending on duration from weekday winter hacks to summer rides                      | £25-£60 |

### LESSONS: CHILDREN - Age 5 – 12 years old

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Group 30 to 45min lessons streamed by ability of child riders                                   | £23-£28 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Private ¾ hour lessons and/or hack (payable on booking)   | £40     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Private ½ hour Starter Lesson. Ideal for youngest beginners on lead rein with junior instructor | £25     |

**PONY CLUB** – All levels for social fun small group learning experiences every Saturday, Sunday, after school and in holidays! Non-members are welcome in all sessions. We offer a range of prices £23 up to £44.

**CAREERS CLUB**: 14+ for older more competent teens considering horses as a work placement or career £POA

### **Where can I get more information?**

Please call us to enquire, arrange to visit or watch a lesson in progress. See us and our team of horses and ponies in our FACEBOOK albums as well as on the website.

Tel 01364 388188

Updated May 2019