



HILL HOUSE SCHOOL

Dear Parent/Guardian

Hill House School Equestrian Club

This year has seen a number of our pupils enjoying the after-school activities and games afternoon sessions at Grove House Stables Equestrian Centre, and I am delighted to bring you further information regarding the Hill House School Equestrian Club for the 2021/2022 academic year.

Activities – for Year 3 upwards

The after-school activities have proved to be very popular and we will continue to offer these on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday evening from 4.30pm to 5.30pm. Transport to Grove House Stables Equestrian Centre will be provided by school. Parents must collect pupils from the stables at 5.30pm. To ensure the activity can run for the full hour, the minibus will depart school at 4.05pm prompt. Pupils must be changed and at the bus in time for a 4.05pm departure.

Pupils are encouraged to bring their own riding boots and a riding hat where possible, however, they are available to borrow from Grove House Stables Equestrian Centre each session. All riders must provide their own riding gloves. Riding equipment is also available for purchase on site.

The after-school activities are designed to allow pupils to develop their riding skills. With that in mind, we have split the activities into three pathways: Gold, Silver and Bronze. When booking your child onto an activity, it is imperative that you select the appropriate category dependent on skill level. This is for health and safety reasons and rider progression. Grove House Stables Equestrian Centre staff will monitor skill levels and development. Instructors will constantly assess pupils' abilities and recommend moving groups where appropriate.

GOLD	Pupils must be able to confidently walk, trot and canter independently. Some jumping experience is preferable.
SILVER	Pupils must be able to ride independently in walk and trot. Ideally, pupils should be progressing towards canter.
BRONZE	All other riders (pupils who need to be on a lead rein or have only just come off a lead rein).



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Throughout the activity sessions, all riders will work towards their British Horse Society Junior Progressive Tests/Awards.

There will be 13 sessions in total, from 6 September to 17 December, at a cost of £22.50 per session (£292.50 in total). This must be paid for, in advance, for the whole term. No refunds are possible for these sessions. Parents will be invoiced by Hill House School.

In the first week, pupils will be assessed to ensure they are in the correct ability level.

All riders must be registered on the GHS system: <https://grovehousestables.co.uk/login> and the i-pegasus system: <https://i-pegasus.ecpro.co.uk/login>. There is no need to complete this if you have previously registered with GHS.

All activities will be bookable through CHQ.

Games Afternoon Sessions

Any pupils in Year 9 upwards, who are not required for school performance sport, may choose to attend Grove House Stables Equestrian Centre during their games afternoon. This option will only be available if minimum numbers are met. Pupils will be transported there and back during the school day.

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All riders must be registered on the GHS system: <https://grovehousestables.co.uk/login> and the i-pegasus system: <https://i-pegasus.ecpro.co.uk/login>. There is no need to complete this if you have previously registered with GHS.

To register for the Games Afternoon Sessions, please click [HERE](#).

New for Michaelmas Term:

1. Hill House School Pony Club

The school has, in conjunction with Grove House Stables Equestrian Centre, set up a Hill House School official Pony Club with Pony Club UK.

Grove House will run Pony Club events which our pupils will be able to enter. If pupils are already a member of another pony club, they will not need to join the HHS Pony Club as they can enter as guests. This exciting development allows pupils who do not have a pony of their own, the opportunity to compete using a Grove House pony.

Please note, Pony Club qualifications and competition will require a Pony Club membership.

Pony Club membership will be a separate charge, payable to Pony Club UK.

Details of how to join the Hill House School Pony Club will be announced shortly.

2. Thursday Club Night

Grove House Stables Equestrian Centre are running a series of Thursday Club Nights, please see the details attached.

These events and competitions are open to anyone, and pupils can pick and choose which events they would like to attend. Grove House are offering these club nights to Hill House pupils at a discounted rate. Please book directly with Grove House Stables Equestrian Centre.

3. Competitions

We are very excited to announce some internal and external competitions. The intention will be to compete in area riding club, Pony Club UK and NSEA events from September 2021.

Internal competitions will take place through the Thursday Club Nights at Grove House Stables Equestrian Centre. Pupils will not need their own pony to take part in the internal competitions. These competitions will be open to riders of all abilities.

External Competitions are open to all pupils who have their own pony, even if they do not take part in the after-school activity or games afternoon. Trials for each external competition will be held at, and organised through, Grove House Stables Equestrian Centre. Competition dates for September and October will be released shortly.

For those who are not involved in the after-school activity or the games afternoon, and cannot make the Thursday Club Night try outs, it is still possible to be involved with team competitions. Grove House Stables Equestrian Centre will run training sessions/trials for each external competition. These will be available at a discounted rate, payable to Grove House Stables Equestrian Centre. Details will be released before each external event.

To register your interest for external competitions, please complete the reply slip [HERE](#).

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Karen Wigglesworth
Bursar and Clerk to the Governors