

A livery yard in the heart
of a thriving school

Equestrian at Sidcot

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Sidcot
Live Adventurously

What matters?

Equestrian at Sidcot



The Equestrian Centre offers a rare combination – a school livery yard in the heart of a thriving co-ed day and boarding school. For students who already ride, or who want to learn, Sidcot is a popular choice, as we pride ourselves on our friendly atmosphere for both beginners and experienced riders alike.

Sidcot Equestrian Team

Keen riders, who own their own horse, will be encouraged to join the Sidcot Equestrian Team. This gives students the opportunity to take part in lessons and clinics and team training in a wide range of disciplines.

There are regular opportunities to compete both locally and at national events and we are very proud of the recent continued success of the Sidcot Team.

Sidcot Equestrian is affiliated to both the National Schools Equestrian Association (NSEA) and British Showjumping Just for Schools (BS JFS) where we have been incredibly competitive at both regional and national level. Sidcot has team representation

at each level and height across all disciplines, including Dressage, Showjumping, Arena Eventing and Jumping with Style.

Some of our successes include:

- 2026: BS Just for Schools National Champions
- 2026: Individual National County Champion at Hickstead
- 2022: National Showjumping Champions
- 2021: National Jumping with Style Champions
- 2019 & 2018: BS Just for Schools National Champions
- 2019: Arena Eventing National Champions

Welcome from our Equestrian Centre Manager

As the Equestrian Centre Manager, I am responsible for overseeing the running of the livery yard here on site for those students who own their own horses.

I also organise lessons both here on our School site and at Urchinwood, for those who also want to learn to horse ride, but do not own their own horse.

I have grown up around and ridden horses from a very early age, being a very active member of the local Pony Club, competing regularly in Dressage, Show Jumping and Eventing. I graduated from Hartpury University with a BSc (Hons) degree in Equine Science and whilst there, was lucky enough to be part of the Equine Academy (Dressage) alongside my studies.

We pride ourselves on the care of all the horses and the quality and standard of the livery provision. Students and their horses are very happy here and I am delighted to witness the joy of riding alongside an academic programme for students at Sidcot.

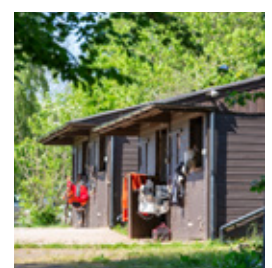
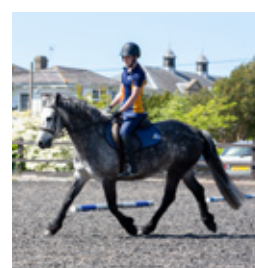
Please contact me for any further information and I look forward to meeting you if you are able to visit us.



Zoe Aston

Equestrian Centre Manager

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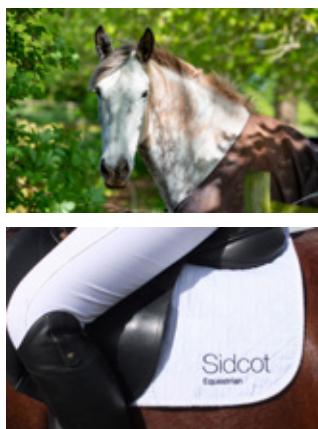


Sidcot's Riding Programme

For students interested in riding who do not own a horse, we offer a full riding programme with lessons on our School horses.

We have a choice of horses at our Equestrian Centre, to suit a range of abilities and experience.

So whether you simply want to try horse riding for a bit of fun, or aim to take riding more seriously, we can support your ambitions.



Our Sidcot Riding Programme teaches the fundamentals of riding, with clear progression and opportunities to experience riding before investing in the cost of owning a horse and full livery.

Assessment

The Sidcot Riding Programme is a continual assessment programme that allows students to build on a range of riding skills and progress through bronze, silver, gold and platinum levels. Students will not only gain confidence in controlling a horse, but they will also develop equine and stable management knowledge.

Start date

The programmes start every half term, with sessions once a week for the duration of the half term. Each lesson will have a maximum of four riders per instructor and are charged at £43.05 per hour long session. Depending on the number of weeks in the half term, students would need to commit to the full half term lessons.

Students will receive a certificate and badge at the end of each level. Places are limited and are offered on a first come first served basis.

Sidcot riding programme progression levels

LEVEL	EXPERIENCE	RIDING SKILLS
 BRONZE	No riding or little riding experience*	• Walk • Working towards rising and sitting trot
 SILVER	Passed Bronze or equivalent	• Establishing the walk and trot position • Working on canter
 GOLD	Passed Silver or equivalent	• Establishing an independent seat • Establishing secure position for walk, trot and canter
 PLATINUM	Passed Gold or equivalent	• Riding different lateral movements • Pole work and aiming towards jumps

* Bronze lessons take place in Urchinwood, see page 4.



Sidcot sample riding schedule

DAY OF THE WEEK	LUNCHTIME	AFTER SCHOOL	PASS
Monday		Gold and Bronze* riders	
Tuesday	Platinum riders	Bronze* riders	
Wednesday	Silver riders		
Thursday			Silver-Platinum riders
Friday		Gold and Platinum riders	

Urchinwood Manor*

Our Bronze course will take place in our partner riding school, Urchinwood, on a Monday and Tuesday after School.

Urchinwood Manor, which is 10 mins away from Sidcot, provides a range of facilities including an indoor and outdoor arena, cross country course consisting of jumps from 1'0" to 3'3" and show jumping courses. Transport will be arranged by the Equestrian Centre.

Sixth Form

Students in the Sixth Form will also have the opportunity to have lessons during study periods, however we cannot guarantee these will be group lessons. 1-1 lessons are charged at £66.15 per session.

Unsure which level to start at?

If you are unsure of your most suitable entry level progression point, please contact Zoe, our Equestrian Manager. Zoe is very happy to review videos and assess the correct level for you.

Opportunities for further progression

Once students have graduated from Platinum, we may be able to provide higher level 1-1 lessons on one of our School horses or assist students with securing a loan horse or purchasing a horse to continue their riding journey.

Full livery offer

We offer a full livery package at £215.25 per week.
A £2,000 deposit is required. This package includes:

- Bedding
- Adlib haylage
- Stable and field usage (depending on individual requirements)
- Basic feed (feed supplements not included)
- All year round turnout
- VAT

In addition to providing a comfortable and clean stable, we will speak with you to ensure (within reason) your horse's needs are catered for to avoid boredom and the development of bad habits or stress related behaviours. This will be achieved by providing a good yard routine, adequate care, exercise, plenty of variety and human contact.

On a routine basis, our professional staff will provide:

- Mucking out
- Grooming
- Tack cleaning
- Supervised free riding sessions
- Exercise in horse walker

Staff can provide extra services at an additional cost.



The advantages of keeping your horse here at the Sidcot Equestrian Centre are numerous. They include:

- Full access to our facilities which include a 30 x 40m floodlit arena
- Full set of British Showjumping jumps
- Horse walker
- Solarium
- Hot shower
- Off road hacking



Sidcot Equestrian Centre is a highly commended British Horse Society livery yard

Riding lessons - Students with their own horses

In addition to our livery offer we are able to provide 1:1 or group riding lessons by our highly qualified riding instructors from beginners to advanced riders. These lessons provide a great opportunity for students to advance their current skills or explore new ones and will be tailored towards the student and their horse. Regardless of which option you choose, our floodlit arena will provide an excellent facility for both rider and horse.

These lessons are arranged with our Equestrian Centre Manager at the start of term. The cost is £29.40 for a one-hour group lesson and from £58.43 for a one-hour individual lesson.

Keen riders will be encouraged to join the Sidcot Equestrian riding team, which gives them the opportunity to take part in lessons/clinics and team training in a wide range of disciplines.

There are regular opportunities to compete both locally and at national events and we are very proud of the School's ongoing success. Sidcot's School team is the winner of the 2022 National Showjumping Championships.



Caoimhe

What people are saying about our livery offer

"I am a Year 13 student at Sidcot and also Equine Scholar. I have been studying at Sidcot for four years and I have always kept my horses here. I love keeping my horses at School because I can come over and ride at any time during the day that I am free of lessons."

I also love competing alongside a great team at multiple championships throughout the year. We have been a really successful group with the benefit of great support from both the Tutors and the equestrian training team here on campus."

Benefits outside of Sidcot's livery offer

- Lessons on a 30 x 40m flood-lit arena
- Hacking through fields on 160 acres of private land
- Full course of show jumps
- Large variety of jump for joy cross-country fences

What people are saying about our riding programme



Zita



Hailey

"I have been riding in Hungary for the last eight years, but as I only planned to come to Sidcot for one term, I did not consider bringing my own horse. I have been so happy to have the opportunity to ride Sidcot's school horses during my time here, so much so that I extended my stay to the full school year. I really enjoy spending time with Langham (the horse). The trainers at Sidcot are great, and they really know how to challenge me and improve my riding skills."

Zita (Year 12, Hungary)

"I have never had riding lessons in my life. Coming from Hong Kong, riding is not something that is very accessible. I was really nervous when I first got on Muffin (the horse), but the staff at the equestrian centre are so nice and great teachers. I love spending time with Muffin and particularly enjoy the group riding lessons, as I can learn together with my friends, which is great fun."

Hailey (Year 9, Hong Kong)

If you would like further information please contact the equestrian team:

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