

Equine Handbook

2020

May 2020 Version

The College
of St. Paul's



INTRODUCTION

Equine Studies has been offered as an area of specialisation at St Paul's College for in excess of 35 years, the core focus is directed but not limited to the Olympic disciplines.

Our aim is to develop students' equine skills, advancing them to capable well-rounded horse people who may further pursue tertiary training or career opportunities in the horse industry.

The Equine Centre is a purpose-built facility adjacent to the main campus and incorporates Dressage and Jumping arenas, Cross Country Training Course, Round Yards, Holding Yards, Sheltered Paddocks and a Utility / Tackroom complex. Residential and day students (with approval) are able to agist their own horses at the College or if they don't own an appropriate mount, use one of the College horses, complete with saddlery and tack.

The formal Equine Curriculum includes:

Year 7 and 8 Equine

- Students participate in a fortnightly riding lesson whilst their usual class has a double PDHPE class. These students are also invited to select Equine for their Activity Session fortnightly.

Years 9 & 10 Equine Studies (An elective study)

- Weekly group riding lessons focusing on skill development in Dressage, Showjumping, Eventing, Showmanship and Horsemanship.
- Theoretical instruction based on fundamental Equine Welfare, Saddlery and Equipment.
- Includes Equestrian Australia Equi-Skills programme leading to certification in Introductory Riding and Horse Management, an initial pathway toward accreditation as an Equestrian Australia coach.

Years 11 & 12 Equine Studies (an elective study)

- Higher School Certificate (HSC) Board Endorsed Course complementing and extending theoretical knowledge and skill development from the previous years. This course however does not contribute towards an ATAR.
- Weekly group riding lesson extending on skill development in Dressage, Showjumping, Eventing, Showmanship, Horsemanship and an Individual Performance Project.
- Theoretical instruction extending on Equine Welfare, Reproduction and Breeding Management and Individual Performance Project.
- Includes Equestrian Australia Equi-Skills programme leading to certification in Introductory and Level 1 Riding and Horse Management, a further pathway toward accreditation as an Equestrian Australia coach.

In addition to class lessons, supervised riding and instructional coaching is available each weekday after school between 3.45-5pm and a 2-hour session once on weekends dependent on conditions.



EXPECTATIONS OF EQUINE STUDENTS

Equine sports require students demonstrate exemplary levels of responsibility in horse care and precautionary behaviour to minimise injury to themselves, horses and others. Students are expected to conform to the following:

1. To provide and wear appropriate clothing and footwear when riding, e.g. approved riding boots, riding helmet that meets current safety standards (undamaged and within 5 years of manufacturers date) and riding attire (long pants, top with sleeves and collar).
2. Safety footwear for anyone entering the Equine Centre, e.g. fully enclosed shoes or boots and students must additionally wear appropriate clothing and a broad brimmed hat when not riding. Gloves are also recommended.
3. Students agisting ensure all their Saddlery and Tack is in good repair and clearly labelled for ownership.
4. Conscientious attendance and care of agisted horses each day with feeding, health checks and rugging as required every afternoon between 3:45-5pm. In addition, upon notification to the Resident Supervisor, students may also attend to their horse in the morning. It is a student's responsibility for their own horse's welfare. If a student is unable to fulfil these requirements due to ill health or absence, negotiations with another student to complete care on their behalf is acceptable after consultation with Residence or Equine Staff.
5. To attend the Equine Centre at designated times.
 - Equine Lessons, with staff member.
 - Supervised Riding and Instructional Coaching Times (after school and weekends).
 - Residents must attend after signing out of the Residence and then signing in on return, and always be in pairs during unsupervised times for horse care.
 - Under no circumstances are students to ride unless an Equine Staff member is present.
 - NO STUDENTS ARE PERMITTED AT THE EQUINE CENTRE BEYOND 5:30pm unless there are extenuating circumstances with a staff member present.
6. Students should only ride their own horse, however permission from both parents e.g. horse owner and prospective rider in written format upon consultation with an Equine Staff member may be approved, although only encouraged if deemed a positive, safe match of horse and rider skill.
7. Day students are permitted and encouraged to ride at the Equine Centre weekdays 3:45-5pm and designated weekend riding time for supervised and instructional coaching, ideally notification in advance ensures the availability of appropriate school horses.
8. The College Cross Country Training Course is out of bounds unless accompanied by an Equine Staff member.
9. When riding outside the Equine Centre perimeter there is a minimum requirement of 3 or more riders, including 1 senior rider, only after approval by Equine Staff in attendance, and prior acknowledged written parental permission. High visibility safety vests are provided at the Centre and must be worn.
10. A safety gear check must be carried out by attending Equine Staff prior to mounting.
11. All students must report into attending Equine Staff upon arrival at the Centre.
12. Mobile Phones are prohibited to be used whilst riding and are only to be used in an emergency, or with the consent of an Equine Staff member.



STUDENTS USING A COLLEGE HORSE

St Paul's College provides horses for students enrolled in Equine Studies who don't have an appropriate horse of their own under the following conditions:

1. Students ride the specific horse allocated to them.
2. All safety procedures are adhered to with respect, care and commitment to the horse's best welfare and others riding.
3. College horses are available for supervised and instructional coaching, in addition to school lessons.
4. Students are expected to commit to improving their riding skills with dedicated attendance at the Equine Centre and are encouraged to engage in additional horse husbandry and care of the College horses.

External Events

Equine students are given the opportunity to attend events primarily in the local area under the guidance of an Equine Staff member in the school truck.

It is an expectation students prepare and train for competitions with their horse sound, fit and well turned out and conduct themselves as great ambassadors for the College when participating at events.

We encourage all levels of riders to attend not only competitions but also training days, clinics and rallies. Events are offered and decided by suitability, interest and dedication. It is the responsibility of parents to authorise participation, nominate and pay entry fees. The College charges a nominal fee for horse transportation payable prior to departure.

Parents are encouraged to take their child to any additional events they wish or assist and support them whilst travelling with the school where possible.

EQUINE CENTRE CONTACTS

Ms Debera Wilson (Head of Equine / Equine Centre Manager)

debera.wilson@stpaulscollege.nsw.edu.au

Ms Julie Barber (Equine Teacher)

julie.barber@stpaulscollege.nsw.edu.au

Mrs Susanne Everitt

susanne.everitt@stpaulscollege.nsw.edu.au



St Paul's College Equine Studies Enrolment Form

NB: No student will be enrolled in the Equine Course until this form is received.

I/We _____ give consent for my/our child to enrol in Equine Studies.

Student's Name: _____

Male Female

D.O.B: _____ Year Level: _____ Care Group: _____

Day Student Weekly Boarder Full Boarder

Horse: College Horse Own Horse Provided - see extra forms if agisting horse at College

Riding Ability: Beginner Novice Experienced (eg. competition level)

Past Riding History: _____

Permission to Ride Out of Grounds

I/We give permission for my child, named above, to ride their own horse or suitable College horse in practical lessons, as set by Equine staff, away from the school premises on weekdays or weekends.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Name: _____

Student Declaration

I have read and fully understand all conditions of student involvement and responsibilities as outlined in the Equine Handbook. I agree to adhere to the requirements and expectations of students enrolled in equine.

Name of student _____

Signature of student _____ Date ____/____/____

Name of Parent/Guardian _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date ____/____/____

AGISTING A HORSE AT ST PAUL'S COLLEGE

Students enrolled in Equine Studies, upon completion of attached forms may agist their horse at the St Paul's College Equine Centre. This can be a rewarding and beneficial experience for both horse and rider, and we offer the following guidelines:

Riding at St Paul's College can be a busy and active time, with varying rider age experience and numbers. Essentially a sound, well mannered, trained horse with a minimum age of 4 is ideal to ensure a safe ideal school environment. A horse displaying any vice that equine staff deem to potentially create a threat to other horses or humans may be requested to be removed from the College. To justify agisting at this facility horses are required to be ridden consistently to maintain soundness, fitness and discipline.

HOLIDAY ARRANGMENTS

All horses are required to go home or to another Agistment facility for school holidays.

DRENCHING AND VACCINATION

It is recommended horses are vaccinated and consistently drenched with rotational wormers at owners expense.

EQUINE PROFESSIONALS

We endorse our preferred practitioners for Equine Wellbeing (Vet, Farrier, Dentist) who attend the College requirements, you are however welcome to engage your own practitioners preferably during holidays or after consultation with the Equine Centre Manager to arrange a suitable visitation time.

TACK

Please bring all essential tack and equipment in safe condition and labelled for ownership, including a concise grooming kit, first aid kit, and rugs if used. These items will be stored in the college tackrooms. Gumboots are recommended for attending horses in wet weather.

ADDITIONAL FEED AND SUPPLEMENTS

Hay is provided by the College. Additional feed can be ordered for delivery to suit individual requirements at students' expense. Horses are required to be attended to at a regular time each afternoon.

To be completed and signed by parent / guardian and student

Student Name: _____

Day Student Weekly Boarder Full Boarder

Horse Name: _____ Horse Age: _____

Horse Colour and Markings: _____

Horse Sex: _____ Horse Brands: _____

Known Vices: (eg. Biting, horse shy, kicking) _____

Past Vet History: (if unknown, please write unknown) _____

Level of training in (please state if Pony Club, Equestrian Australia, Adult Riding Club):

Dressage _____

Show Jumping: _____

Cross Country: _____

Other Disciplines: (Please state) _____

Horse's ability to float / truck, special needs: _____

Recent Drenching history: _____

Are there any issues with this horse, not listed above that staff should be aware of? (if no, please write no)

New Arrivals: All horses arriving at the College for the first time must be placed in a yard. An equine staff member will assess your horse for general health and will then allocate your horse to a paddock. If your horse shows signs of a communicable disease, it will be quarantined until veterinary advice is sought.

We advise that for your own peace of mind, you seek a Veterinary Certificate prior to arrival if you have any concerns.

Permission to Obtain Veterinary Attention

I/We _____ give permission for St Paul's College to obtain veterinarian attention for my child's horse at our cost in the event of an emergency.

The Equine Manager will consult with the student and/or parent first where possible.

If you are unable to be contacted in an emergency, you:

- Consent to costs of up to: \$250 \$500 \$1000
 other amount of \$_____ \$ unlimited being charged for emergency care.

- I do / do not (please circle) give staff in consultation with vet permission, if we are uncontactable, to euthanize the horse if the condition seems fit. E.g. broken leg, severe bowel obstruction.

Signed: _____

Emergency Contact Numbers:

Parent: _____ Student: _____

I have read and understood the conditions of this document, and have completed it honestly to the best of my knowledge.

Student Name: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent Name: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____

To be completed by Instructor / Teacher at St Paul's College

Can the horse be easily caught?: _____

Can the horse be led safely to and from it's paddock?: _____

Does the horse tie well?: _____

Can the horse be safely mounted whilst standing still, both with and without a mounting

block?: _____

Quality (roundness, obedience etc) of the;

Walk: _____

Trot: _____

Canter: _____

Any vices displayed: _____

Before any new horse is permitted to attend the Cross Country course it must be assessed jumping in the show jumping arena. (Teacher notes, height, rhythm, control etc)

Instructor / Teacher Name: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____

