



## Risk Assessment – 2025–2026

**Name of Organisation:** Pony Partnerships CIC

**Venue/Address:** All venues

**Date of Review:** 1 September 2025

**Date of Next Review:** 31 August 2026

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### Introduction

Pony Partnerships CIC is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all clients, staff, volunteers, visitors, and animals. This risk assessment identifies potential hazards associated with our activities and premises, evaluates the likelihood and severity of harm, and details control measures in line with:

- Health and Safety at Work Act 1974
- Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
- Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) 2013
- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) 2002
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2025
- Best practice guidance from the HSE, Derbyshire Safeguarding Boards, and relevant animal welfare legislation.

All staff, volunteers, and visitors must follow this policy and report hazards, incidents, or near misses immediately.

### Risk Assessment Matrix

Risk Rating	Definition
Low	Unlikely to occur, minimal harm, adequate controls in place.
Medium	Possible occurrence, could cause harm, additional precautions may be needed.
High	Likely or severe impact, urgent action required to reduce risk.

## Themed Risk Assessments

### 1. Animals and Equine-Assisted Activities

Hazard	Who May Be Harmed	Risk	Control Measures	Risk Rating
Kicks, bites, or unpredictable animal behaviour	Clients, staff, volunteers, visitors	Injury, trauma	Staff trained in equine handling, risk assessment of individual animals, helmets/boots, staff supervision, exclusion of unsuitable participants.	Medium
Allergic reactions (hay, animal hair)	Clients, staff, visitors	Allergic response, asthma	Health forms collected; staff aware of conditions; first aiders trained in EpiPen use; antihistamine advice.	Low
Animal escape	Clients, staff, animals	Injury, property damage	Secure fencing; gates kept closed; emergency animal handling plan; vet on call (Scarsdale Vets).	Medium
Zoonotic disease	Clients, staff, volunteers	Infection	Handwashing stations, sanitiser, no food in animal areas, regular veterinary checks.	Low

### 2. Site Safety and Environment

Hazard	Who May Be Harmed	Risk	Control Measures	Risk Rating
Slips, trips, falls (mud, uneven ground)	Clients, staff, visitors	Minor to serious injury	Path maintenance, warning signs, appropriate footwear, mobility risk assessments.	Medium
Fire	All site users	Injury, property loss	Fire evacuation plan, fire extinguishers, termly drills, smoke alarms, trained fire marshals.	High
Severe weather (snow, flooding, storms)	Clients, staff, animals	Injury, disruption	Emergency closure procedures, relocation plans, gritting in winter, shelters for animals.	Medium
Vehicle movement (entrances, car parks)	Clients, staff, visitors	Collision, injury	Designated drop-off points, staff supervision, signage, speed restrictions.	Medium

### 3. Health and Medical Needs

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Hazard	Who May Be Harmed	Risk	Control Measures	Risk Rating
Medical emergency (asthma, diabetes, seizures, allergies)	Clients, staff	Serious illness or death	Health forms collected, care plans, staff trained in emergency protocols, first aid kits available, emergency services contact procedures.	High
Infectious disease (COVID-19, flu, norovirus)	All site users	Illness, outbreak	Hygiene routines, ventilation, isolation procedures, communication with Public Health.	Medium
Mental health crisis (self-harm, suicide attempt)	Clients	Serious harm	Trauma-informed staff, safeguarding protocols, emergency services if needed, supervision levels adjusted.	High

#### 4. Safeguarding and Lone Working

Hazard	Who May Be Harmed	Risk	Control Measures	Risk Rating
Allegations against staff	Staff, clients	Reputational/individual harm	Code of Conduct, supervision, safeguarding training, record-keeping, DSL contact procedures.	Medium
Lone working risks	Staff	Isolation, harm, safeguarding risks	Hollie Guard app, check-in/out procedures, supervisor awareness.	Medium
Online safety during remote learning	Clients, staff	Cyber risk, data breach	Secure platforms, data protection training, parental consent, safeguarding protocols in line with KCSIE 2025.	Medium

#### 5. Equipment and Chemicals

Hazard	Who May Be Harmed	Risk	Control Measures	Risk Rating
Tack/equipment failure	Clients, staff	Injury	Regular inspection, repairs logged, unsuitable equipment removed from use.	Medium
Chemicals (cleaning, veterinary)	Staff, clients	Burns, poisoning	COSHH-compliant storage, locked cupboards, PPE provided, staff training.	Medium
Electrical safety (chargers, heaters,	Clients, staff	Shock, fire	PAT testing, visual checks, access limited, isolation switches.	Medium

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Hazard	Who May Be Harmed	Risk	Control Measures	Risk Rating
fencing)				

## 6. Trips, Visits, and Transport

Hazard	Who May Be Harmed	Risk	Control Measures	Risk Rating
Road travel/transport	Clients, staff	Collision, injury	Insurance, driver checks, seatbelts, parental consent, emergency contact details.	Medium
Educational visits	Clients, staff	Accident, illness	Pre-visit risk assessments, group leader training, ratios maintained, emergency plan in place.	Medium

## Monitoring and Review

- Risk assessments will be reviewed **annually** or sooner if incidents occur, legislation changes, or new activities are introduced.
- Staff are required to report new hazards and near misses immediately.
- Training on health and safety, first aid, safeguarding, and fire safety is provided regularly.

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