

**Our Vision is to support holistic development, aiming for lasting engagement in employment or education**.

We are committed to providing relevant and supportive learning opportunities to all children and young people who are not accessing traditional education, in training or employment. We are passionate about the role horses can play in this, with our staff being able to attest to the powerful impact of horses in personal development. We work in partnership with the British Horse Society to deliver six Life Skills for all young people: Building Relationships, Communication, Confidence, Responsibility, Teamwork, Perseverance.

Changing Lives Through Horses is an alternative education programme where children and young people can learn in a safe and nurturing environment alongside highly trained coaches at Quarry Farm, a British Horse Society Approved Riding Centre.

With regular attendance, children and young people will develop the skills, abilities and desire to engage in education and gain employment to fully participate in society. Quarry Farm offers a safe, equestrian workplace where children and young people can connect, engage, learn and improve their wellbeing and outlook on life.

Our vision will be achieved through collaborating with all stakeholders involved in the care, support and development of our children and young people. We acknowledge that it is a cohesive team around the child or young person that will provide the best long-term outcomes. Quarry Farm commit to providing practical horse care and handling opportunities with related, structured awards and certificates. These opportunities will develop skills which are both transferable to traditional education or employment environments and develop the six key like skills. Participants in the changing lives through horses programme will build a portfolio of equine knowledge and experience that could lead to a pathway of equine industry qualifications.

**Why Changing Lives Through Horses?**

Nearly one in ten 16–18-year-olds are not in education, employment or training (NEET), while one in four young people struggle with low self-esteem and poor wellbeing; 1 in 10 children have a diagnosable mental health disorder as do 1 in 5 young adults. Changing Lives through Horses has the potential to reach these people at a critical point in their lives. Using horses as the inspiration for change, the programme provides an alternative learning environment to mainstream education. The skills developed through the programme meet the requirements of ongoing education and training, employers and participants.

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