

Reference: **CB / LANW / 22 / 005483**



**The Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals)
(England) Regulations 2018**

LICENCE FOR KEEPING OR TRAINING ANIMALS FOR EXHIBITION

Central Bedfordshire Council being the Local Authority under the above Regulations, hereby licence:

Suzanne Adamthwaite of CANter Equine Assisted Learning & Psychotherapy
for exhibition / encounters or training of performing animals situated at
The Stables, Gravenhurst Rd, Lower Gravenhurst, MK45 4HL

Being the occupier of the above-mentioned premises within the area of the said Authority to keep animals to train for exhibition at the same premises subject to the licence conditions.

The premises have been granted a **3-Year licence**.

This Licence shall remain in force from the **26th September 2025** until and including the **25th September 2028**

Granted at the Central Bedfordshire Council offices.

Date: 17th September 2025

<u>Animals authorised on this licence at date of issue</u>
Horses: (5) – Woody, Tanner, Velvet, Daisy & Minty

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Susan Childerhouse".

Susan Childerhouse
(Officer appointed for this purpose)

Licence conditions

All licence conditions are to be complied with throughout the duration of the licence. These licence conditions and statutory guidance can be found online at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/animal-activities-licensing-guidance-for-local-authorities/keeping-or-training-animals-for-exhibition-licensing-statutory-guidance-for-local-authorities#part-a--general-conditions-schedule-2-of-the-regulations>

In addition to the above:

1. At least one unannounced visit every year will occur and will increase in frequency in the event of any complaints or non-compliance reported to the local authority.
2. Any changes to the licence such as licensee, address, animal species and stock numbers must be reported to the local authority to vary the licence.
3. A copy of the licence must be clearly and prominently displayed on any premises used for the licensable activity.
4. The name of the licence holder followed by the number of the licence holder's licence must be clearly and prominently displayed on any website used in respect of the licensable activity.
5. No animals or types of animals other than those specified on the licence may be used in relation to the relevant licensable activity.
6. As part of the application process a risk assessment was submitted for review dated 2017 which is outdated and not reflective of the current site given the building development more recently. You MUST conduct and complete and up to date risk assessments for people working alongside the horses and on the site to include visitors and staff. (Licence conditions 10.1 and 7.7) To be actioned within 7 days.
7. Upon inspection, signage was not in place for the next cohort of student due in the coming weeks. Advice was given at the time as to where signage and the licence is best placed. Please include the addition of a fire extinguisher sign where the fire extinguisher is installed and no smoking signs where staff will clearly see them. (Licence condition 10.1) To be actioned Immediately
8. Upon discussion of staffing, although the licensee is the core carer for the horses in her absence other staff members will cover the care of the horses both in a therapy session and outside of this. Please add a list of staff and their involvement with the horses to ensure staff competency assessment. (Licence condition 4.1, 2.4 and 4.3) To be actioned Immediately (Ongoing)
9. Upon discussion and review, no ongoing CPD has been logged in the policies relating to animal welfare despite additional pony club training. Please log all CPD in relation to horse care and management within your policies and procedures. (Licence condition 4.1, 2.4 and 4.3) To be actioned Immediately (Ongoing)
10. During the previous 3-year licence no fire drills have taken place. As part of the 5–6-week course, all participants are given a health and safety briefing upon arrival at the stables. It is important that this is followed up with a fire drill bi-annually for at least the staff and school teachers to attend. Please document who was in attendance and assess how it went to make reasonable adjustments to future training and fire drill practices. (Licence condition 10.1) To be actioned Immediately (Ongoing)
- 11.

The appeals process

This licence has been given a star rating and issued following an inspection of the business.

To ensure fairness to businesses, Central Bedfordshire Council has an appeal procedure in place for businesses to dispute the star rating given in respect of their business, procedure as per this document. The appeal procedure is relevant where the business wishes to dispute the star rating given as not reflecting the animal welfare standards and risk level of their business at the time of the inspection. This should not be used if the business has made improvements to their business and wishes to be reassessed – in this case, the business should apply for re-inspection

If a business wishes to appeal the star rating given by the ‘inspecting officer’ (i.e. the officer undertaking the inspection) on behalf of Central Bedfordshire Council, the appeal should be made in writing (including by email) to the Council, and can be sent to: Health&Safety@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

A business disputing a rating should be encouraged to discuss this informally first with the ‘**inspecting officer**’ so that there is an opportunity to help explain to the business how the rating was worked out, as this may help resolve the matter without the business having to lodge an appeal. Any such discussions do not form part of the formal appeal process and do not change the deadline within which an appeal must be lodged. Note if the business does lodge an appeal and the matter is resolved informally, the business may subsequently withdraw it, if they wish.

Businesses have **21 days** (including weekends and bank holidays) following the issue of their licence in which to appeal the star rating.

The appeal should be determined by a designated manager, details below. No officer involved in the production of the rating, or in the inspection on which the rating is based should consider the appeal.

Central Bedfordshire Council will deal with the appeal within 21 days (including weekends and bank holidays) from the date we receive the appeal to consider the appeal, within which time we will issue a decision to the business.

Central Bedfordshire Council will determine the outcome of an appeal by considering the paperwork associated with the inspection and the past record of the business. In some circumstances, a further visit to the establishment may be required. The appeal process will be transparent. The costs of any additional inspections related to the appeal will be borne by the applicant unless it results in a higher rating being awarded. This will depend on the nature of the dispute and whether a decision can or cannot be made on the basis of the paperwork.

If the business disagrees with the outcome of the appeal, they can challenge the Council’s decision by means of judicial review. The business also has recourse to the Council’s complaints procedure (including taking the matter to the Local Government Ombudsman where appropriate) if they consider that a council service has not been properly delivered

Requests for re-inspections for re-rating purposes

To ensure fairness to businesses, Central Bedfordshire Council has a procedure in place for undertaking re-inspections at the request of the business for re-assessing their star rating. Please contact the officer issuing the licence for more information.