

Ride racehorses on the road or the training gallops under supervision

Overview

This standard is about riding racehorses on the road or the training gallops, under supervision, and according to procedures laid-down.

The work described in this standard would be carried out following agreement with a supervisor about the responsibilities and methods of work.

You will need to be fully aware of the importance of health, safety and animal welfare in connection with this activity.

You will need to be able to recognise hazards in the workplace.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. select and wear the appropriate clothing and personal protective equipment according to instructions
2. approach the racehorse in accordance with instructions and in a manner that minimises stress to the racehorse, and risk to yourself and others
3. prepare racehorses for routine exercise under supervision
4. complete the relevant preparations before the ride is commenced
5. mount and dismount racehorses safely
6. adjust the gait and speed according to the prevailing conditions
7. follow procedures for riding racehorses on roads, tracks and to and from training gallops, at all times
8. maintain the safety of yourself and others, and the welfare of the horse, during the activity

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. the use and care of personal protective equipment
2. the road safety requirements and the relevant sections of the Highway Code when riding on roads
3. how to approach horses in an appropriate manner to minimise stress and risk to yourself and others
4. how to prepare a racehorse for routine exercise on the road or training gallops
5. how to plan the route
6. the responsibilities of riding in a group and on your own
7. the effects of weather on visibility, surface and ground conditions and how this may affect riding
8. the actions to be taken in the event of an accident/incident
9. the risks to horses, yourself and others and how these can be minimised
10. your responsibilities under relevant animal health and welfare and health and safety legislation and codes of practice

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Scope/range

Prepare the following:

- tack
- route
- position in string

Take into account four of the following, when riding on the road or training gallops:

- surface and ground conditions
- weather
- other road users
- riding in a group
- visibility

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