

## Overview

This standard involves assisting with riding activities for riders with special requirements.

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.

Assist with riding activities for riders with special requirements

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**Performance criteria**

You must be able to:

1. select and wear appropriate clothing and personal protective equipment for the activity, according to instructions
2. assist with riding activities for riders with special requirements by leading the horse at the required pace and maintaining safe distances, according to instructions
3. monitor riders throughout the activity, according to instructions
4. liaise and feed back to the coach/instructor and other assistants throughout the activity
5. report any hazardous situations promptly to the coach/instructor
6. communicate with the riders using appropriate methods to suit individual requirements
7. follow the coach/instructors instructions at all times
8. maintain the safety of yourself and others, and the welfare of the horse, during the activity

## Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. the selection, use and care of personal protective equipment
2. the different types of leading and when each one is appropriate
3. the reasons why side walking is necessary
4. the reasons why riders must be continuously monitored
5. how to recognise stress and distress in riders and horses and the appropriate actions to be taken
6. the basic types of rider conditions and special requirements and how they affect riding
7. the hazards likely to be encountered and how they are dealt with
8. why it is essential to maintain communication with riders and others throughout the activity
9. the risks to horses, yourself and others and how these can be minimized
10. your responsibilities under relevant animal health and welfare and health and safety legislation and codes of practice.

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**Scope/range**

Assist different riders during three different rides/sessions

## Glossary

### Leading:

- level one – close leading – the leader has control
- level two – longer lead – the rider has more control
- level three – leader is only there for an emergency – the rider is nearly independent

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