



“Big School, Big Pants” Polework Workshop Details

The purpose behind this workshop series is to educate young horses in traveling out to a venue, doing some work and returning home whilst remaining calm.... time for Big School and putting on Big Pants!

I often find young horses are taken out to their first adventure away from home, in a group setting. This can be overwhelming and excitable for horses, with them feeding off each other's excitable state. This means that the horse isn't in the right headspace to learn and focus, and nobody has an enjoyable day. The excitement of the initial trip can then lead to anticipation of excitement when being loaded the next time, and then the next time the sight of the travel boots can start to make the horse edgy. And so we have inadvertently taught the horse to get excitable when going out from home.

This series has been arranged so that horses can travel out, on a regular basis, to somewhere that is a little more controlled and not as pressured as a busy show venue. They will then have a short individual polework session, which can progress over the 3 sessions at their pace. The fourth and final session will be a group polework session.

There will be several date options for the first three sessions, you will choose your three dates. The final session will be on a set date and will be a maximum of three horses in the session.

These sessions will each have a goal so we incrementally build trust and skills. Polework is an excellent way to introduce horses to jumping, improve proprioception and develop technical skills.

Who is coaching this clinic?

Resident coach Christine Shubrook.

BS Accredited UKCC Level 3 Showjumping Coach



*Cente10 Accredited Coach
(Applied Psychology for Equestrian Coaching)*



Testt® Certified.



NLP Practitioner for Sport.

Part of the National Development Program for Coaching Excellence

What is this clinic good for?

- Young horses starting out on their competition journey
- Older horses coming back into work who aren't fit enough to do a longer session

What should I be able to do, already, to get the most out of this clinic?

- Walk over a pole in hand
- Load into your transport.

What will we do?

The three initial sessions will be tailored to the individual horse and how they are on the day. Although each will have an objective. You will leave the session with some homework in preparation for the next session, nothing taxing or complex.

By the fourth group session the horses should be comfortable with the process of traveling, being tacked up away from home and working in the school over poles. The final challenge will be to work with others in the 'Big School' with their 'Big pants' on.

Session One –

Objective - to load, travel, work in the school, walk over some poles

Session Two –

Objective – more settled traveling and waiting in the transport. Trot over poles

Session Three –

Objective – comfortable with traveling and being prepared. Trot over pole sets in succession, arranged as a pattern of curves and turns. Canter over a single pole.

Session Four –

Group polework session. Objective will be for horses to work together with focus on their tasks, in trot over pole sets. Canter over poles one at a time.

Goals for your next step

What will I get from the clinic?

Confidence in taking your horse out to a venue.

Pointers on where your horses' strengths are.

A benchmark of where you are now and the next steps needed for you longer term goal

How do I book?

See the website for the booking form. Complete the form and then you will be contacted with your slot time and payment.