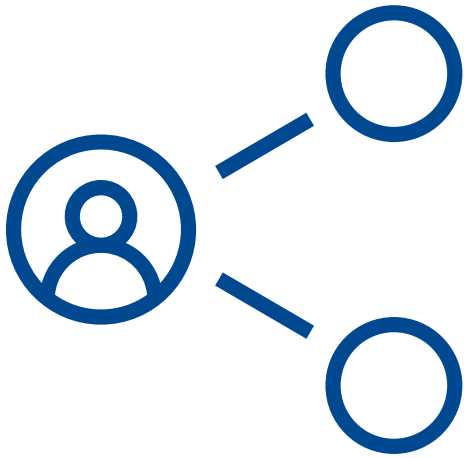


British Equestrian funding support

Expanding inclusive
equestrian opportunities



Working in partnership



British Equestrian collaborated with British Horse Society (BHS) to support a riding school in securing funding for an exciting new development in their therapeutic equestrian provision.

This collaboration brought sector insight to support and strengthen the application and ensure the project was well aligned to funder priorities.

This project demonstrates the impact of effective partnership working in unlocking funding and creating new, meaningful opportunities for disabled young people in equestrian sport.

The project

The successful funding award will enable the centre to introduce equestrian vaulting into its existing offer. New specialist equipment will be purchased, including a vaulting simulator and vaulting barrel, designed to create accessible and engaging opportunities for disabled participants.

The project will support increased physical activity for 24 disabled people, primarily children and young adults. Two one-hour sessions will be delivered each week, with up to six participants per session, developing confidence, coordination, strength and enjoyment through inclusive equestrian activity.





Need

Vaulting is an activity with potentially huge benefits, but with a significant startup cost. Adding Vaulting to the centre's portfolio of therapeutic equestrian activities will mean they can offer a wider range of activities to participants, in addition to the riding, carriage driving, equine activities, Tea with a Pony and Changing lives through Horses currently already on offer.

Funder

Sport England Movement Fund £13,750
Crowdfunder £13,906
Total **£27,656**

Application process

Kelvin Silburn, RDA Woodbridge and District Trustee:

How did you find the application process?

"The application process was straightforward enough. Of course, the Crowdfunder aspect has some challenges, but nonetheless our target was achieved."

How did you find the funding application support from BEF and BHS?

"This was extremely helpful. Being able to draft our submission and get comments and guidance before submitting was invaluable."



Impact



As an activity, vaulting has a number of attractions for us. First, it allows us to reach more people, including those who might be unable for a variety of reasons to participate in other activities we offer. It's also complimentary to our other activities.

Our key constraints in 'traditional' RDA activities being the number of horses we can realistically keep; the number of volunteers we have available to support participants; and availability of timeslots in our indoor arena. Vaulting doesn't require additional horses, some sessions will run purely on a barrel or simulator, sessions using horses require only one horse for multiple participants. We've identified and are training existing group horses to take part in vaulting. We can run vaulting sessions with a lower ratio of volunteers to participants than is possible for riding or driving. Vaulting doesn't always require use of our indoor arena, so doesn't clash with other activities.

So, not only are we able to offer activities to additional participants, we can do this within our current operational constraints, this also adds an economy of scale that will help secure the viability of our centre into the future.

