

Nine Acres Equestrian was recommended to me in June 2013, as I had been struggling to find an instructor who was able to help both my inexperienced self and my inexperienced pony. For a while, I chose not to call Hazel as Nine Acres was quite a distance from my home and I continued to use a more traditional riding school. In 5 months of very regular lessons, I never really seemed to progress and feel safe and connected in the saddle, even though I was cantering. Following a fall in no stirrup work (and basically being totally out of control), I decided it was time to make a change and I have never looked back since. To be honest, I really regret hesitating to contact Nine Acres for those 5 months.

Hazel's style is gentle, reassuring and completely confidence building, which is so very important for both the novice, and the beginner. Initially her principle focus is to ensure that the inexperienced rider finds that safe, connected seat and it has really been fun being reprogrammed. Hazel also focuses very much on developing strength and flexibility in the rider too.

I am now looking forwards to achieving a light seat in trot and moving onto canter when I'm ready. To date, Hazel has managed to make me sit the trot properly and it just feels so very, very good! I have thoroughly enjoyed every step of my journey so far at Nine Acres, and I really, finally, feel that I am riding the delightful ponies Hazel has, not being a slightly unsafe passenger anymore. Hazel has done such a fantastic job with me, I will be sending my beautiful pony, Puzzle for lessons soon.

If you are an inexperienced "Wanna Be" rider, like me, I couldn't recommend Hazel highly enough.