



ISOLATION – WHAT DO I DO?

Only enter isolation with the permission of the yard manager

To enter isolation:

- Do not enter unless you are wearing clean overalls. Make sure they cover your cuffs, collar and trouser bottoms and are not ripped anywhere
- Tie long hair up or use a disposable cap
- Use the designated entry point
- Only take in things you really need. Anything that comes back out will need disinfecting if it has been exposed or handled while in isolation. This includes hats, jewellery, water bottles and mobile phones

When in isolation:

- Only use allocated equipment
- Give horses the care they need, but avoid unnecessary interaction, especially around the head
- Change drinking water daily as it quickly becomes heavily contaminated. Used water must be treated with neat disinfectant to the right dilution rate before being discarded
- Feed bowls should be washed, disinfected and rinsed thoroughly between uses
- Nasal discharge or pus found on the floor and walls can be wiped up with cotton wool and the area underneath disinfected. Dispose of the cotton wool carefully in the isolation waste
- Follow the procedures arranged by the manager for disposing of muck
- ANYTHING that is removed from isolation needs to be completely disinfected. Items such as headcollars, haynets, rugs and grooming kit should be left in disinfectant to soak for several hours before being rinsed thoroughly

To leave isolation:

- Use the designated exit point
- Remove your overalls at the exit point. Peel the overalls off so they turn inside out to avoid the outside of the overalls coming into contact with clothes underneath. Put them straight into the disinfectant soak and ensure they are fully submerged
- Peel off disposable gloves so they are also turned inside out and place in isolation rubbish then disinfect hands
- Thoroughly disinfect all parts of foot wear that have been exposed. Floors, bedding and muck are especially prone to contamination from an infected horse
- Disinfectant does not work if it is contaminated with a lot of dirt or muck so scrape dirt off boots (and sweep up!) before using disinfectant foot dips

Maintaining isolation:

- Disinfectant dips will need to be changed regularly in line with the manufacturer's instructions, and a record kept of when this has been done. Disinfected overalls need to be dried (and washed if necessary) ready for re-use. A supply of clean overalls needs to be available at all times
- Everyone has a role to play in making an isolation area work, even people whose own horses are not directly affected. We all benefit from making sure our isolation procedures are as effective as possible, so if you have any questions or concerns, please just ask!

