

Pottery Lessons -Terms and Conditions

v24.2



1. Health and Safety

The Potter's Wheel takes a diligent approach to health and safety for the sake of all staff, students, studio users and retail customers. By participating in one of our pottery lessons students are agreeing to abide by the Health & Safety Guidelines as specified in these Terms and Conditions and instructed by tutors and management. Repeated failure to do so will result in termination of the student's participation rights.

Please be aware The Potter's Wheel is a working pottery studio environment; and due care and attention must be given to your surroundings and fellow students at all times. The Potter's Wheel is not liable and cannot be held responsible for any accidents caused by students whilst at the studio. Students use the studio at their own risk with awareness of the hazards of a studio environment; which include but are not limited to the use of 230V mains-powered electrical machinery with moving parts; sharp tools; sharp edges; and the inherent risks associated with working with clays and glazes.

Each lesson will start with a short Health & Safety advisory talk from your tutor.

2. Personal protection considerations & responsibilities

When working with clay – and especially when using the pottery wheels – long hair must be tied back; and it is thoroughly recommended that finger nails are cut short.

Please wear flat shoes with non-slip soles, trainers or boots. Open-toe shoes, sandals or heels will not be allowed.

Wear clothes that you don't mind getting dirty; working with clay can get pretty messy! Aprons, masks and eye protection will be available.

It's always best to remove rings, bracelets and watches when working with clay, so we recommend leaving these at home to avoid personal injury, loss or damage to items and potential contamination of the clay. The Potter's Wheel will not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage to personal possessions such as clothing, shoes, watches, jewellery or mobile devices.

If you have a pacemaker, or other similar implanted medical device, please consult with your cardiologist for advice as pottery wheels can cause potentially disruptive magnetic fields. The Potter's Wheel cannot be held liable for any resulting incident or personal injury caused by using the wheels in this instance.

If you are pregnant, have recently given birth or are healing from recent injury or surgery, it is the full responsibility of the student to deem if they are capable of undertaking the physical requirements of the lesson's activities. Use of a pottery wheel is entirely at the student's risk.

3. Studio Etiquette

General polite behaviour and respect for your fellow students and tutor is expected at all times. There will be zero tolerance of verbal or physical abuse.

Students will be required to clean their tools and their work area as instructed by the tutor before leaving the lesson.

The studio is a non-smoking and non-vaping environment. Consuming alcohol on the studio premises at any time during the lesson period is strictly forbidden; as is entering the studio intoxicated on drugs

or alcohol. Individuals who break – or are suspected of breaking – these rules will be denied entry to, or removed from, the studio at the management’s discretion with no refund.

Any equipment that is broken by a student due to negligence or manhandling during the lesson period will be repaired or replaced at the cost of the student responsible.

4. Attendance, cancellation and unclaimed work

It is the responsibility of the student to arrive in good time for their booked lesson; ideally 5-10 minutes ahead of the scheduled start time. It is entirely at the discretion of the tutor whether or not to accept a late arrival, which is potentially detrimental to fellow students’ enjoyment of the lesson. The lesson will finish at the scheduled time with no partial refund for late arrivals.

A full refund will be offered where notice of cancellation is received in writing (by email or other mobile messaging service) at least 14 days prior to the class date.

Cancellations for lessons received with less than 7 days’ notice are non-refundable.

In the unlikely event that The Potter’s Wheel cancels your lesson, we will do our best to organise an alternative date within 3 months. If it is not possible to arrange an alternative date, a full refund will be offered.

The Potter’s Wheel reserves the right to change the timing, date or tutor of the lesson in order to maintain provision of a high-quality service; or where it is necessary for reasons beyond The Potter’s Wheel’s control. In such circumstances The Potter’s Wheel will endeavour to give participants as much notice as is reasonably possible.

Any unclaimed work left for over 4 weeks after The Potter’s Wheel has been in contact regarding a subsequent glazing workshop or collection of fired items, such will be presumed unwanted and either be recycled or disposed of.

5. Technical issues and breakages

The Potter’s Wheel is equipped with the highest quality kilns and equipment which are maintained in good working order as is necessary for a working pottery studio; and only experienced and trained staff will handle and fire your ceramic work. However, by the very nature of ceramics there always remains a small risk of technical failure such as “Sudden Unintended Disassembly” during firing due to hidden stresses, contaminants or discontinuities within the clay; or unforeseen equipment or power failure during firing, for which neither The Potter’s Wheel nor its staff can be held responsible. In such situations refunds cannot be given as materials and firing costs still need to be covered.

6. Prolific Makers

Ceramics is an expensive process and The Potter’s Wheel endeavours to minimise costs wherever possible. Lesson costs are based on an estimated output quota in order to remain sustainable as a business. We do not like to restrict students’ creativity, but due to very limited shelf and kiln space The Potter’s Wheel reserves the right to revise and amend class output, materials and equipment.

After any lesson students will be asked to select a specified maximum number of preferred made items for firing, glazing etc. from their total output. All other items will be recycled.

7. Use of images for promotional purposes

The Potter’s Wheel may take photos of students and their work for the purposes of promotion via print and online media. Your tutor will ask for permission prior to any photography. Please inform your tutor if you do not consent to this.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.