

Peak

Potters

Creative Studio

Adult Beginner Ceramics Courses

The beginner ceramics courses at Peak Potters aim to provide a pleasant environment and well stocked workshop, with guidance through the core principles of working with clay, and providing inspiration and enthusiasm to encourage students to produce creations they never thought they could.

There are two electric potter's wheels and one kick-wheel available to all on the course and a large work area for hand building and project work. We also have a slab roller for slab building and tile making, and are soon to have an extruder.

To start with, we will be using a low firing earthenware clay which works particularly well with a myriad of colourful underglazes which are non toxic. After working with these, the option of investigating other clays and their properties will also lead to working with more complex glazes which are made and mixed on site. We currently have an electric kiln at Peak Potters, but also hope to invest in a large gas kiln in the future which will allow for the use of 'reduction' glazes.

Peak Potters began in September 2016 - we've had a busy time getting the workshop ready for visitors, and there are still a lot of finishing touches that will be going on through out the coming months, so I hope you will bear with us while the works continue.

With that in mind, I will run through all the health and safety precautions with you (and some are also included in this pack), should you choose to join the beginners' course. Particularly on arrival at Peak Potters, please be aware that we are in the process of building a drystone wall and paved area in the grounds, and there are walling stones and large slabs stored on the land around the workshop that may be unstable - so, please take care. We will endeavour to finish the building work as soon as possible. All areas beyond the driveway and entrance are out of bounds, as is the main living area of the house.

Due to limited parking space at Peak Potters it is advisable to park your car on the lay-by across the road from us. Please take extra care crossing Chapel Road which has a 50mph limit at this point. Cars do come fast around the corner, so for your safety please take your time to choose a suitable gap in the traffic. If you have mobility issues or are transporting a large group to Peak Potters and need to park on our driveway, that is absolutely fine, but please come well on to the drive, leaving room for pedestrians to get past and please do NOT park in the area next to our gateway labelled No.2 No Parking - this spot belongs to our neighbours who require it to be left empty for them at all times. Thank you for your cooperation.

When you enter the property please go straight along the driveway towards the field to enter the building through the big bi-fold doors on the far side of the building. We will be using these doors for the duration of the course.

Disposable aprons are available, but if you would rather wear your own apron, then please feel free to bring it. Most of the materials we will be using come out in the wash and frequent washing of aprons is advised to avoid build up of dust. However there are some toxic and caustic compounds in certain glaze ingredients, which are only available on the adult courses. These will be clearly marked - please take advice before handling.

Tea and coffee are available to help yourself, and there is a toilet nearby if needed (upstairs).

I have attached 3 forms for you to read through and fill in if you wish to join a course. I would appreciate it if you could bring them along to your first session, or scan and email them to helen@cadstermill.plus.com . Please sign and date the forms to show that you understand the health and safety precautions and guidelines, that the student details you are providing are correct to the best of your knowledge and that you agree to the payment terms.

The Venue:

The workshop at Cadster Mill is a wonderful large and light space, perfect for creative group activities. There is a bit more information about it on the website.

Peak Potters,
Cadster Mill,
Chapel Rd,
Whaley Bridge.
Derbyshire.
SK23 7EN.

Ceramics birthday parties and group bookings are available at Peak Potters during weekends, as well as children's after school courses. Please visit the website for more details and feel free to get in touch with any requirements.

Do not hesitate to get in touch with any questions you may have.

With thanks and best wishes,

Helen Jacobs.

Facebook: PeakPotters
m.07818833599
www.PeakPotters.co.uk
Helen@cadstermill.plus.com