



# BEDFORD HOUSE

Arts – Crafts – Fitness – Leisure – Room Hire  
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## Sculpture in Clay

Tutor: *Esther Neslen*

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Clay is incredible to work with, particularly when you realise that the pliable material you have in your hands was created millions of years ago! There are many methods used to create a three-dimensional sculpture in clay. The basis of all shapes and forms can be made using pinch pots, coiling, building with slabs, modelling and carving, and then decorating your work with oxides and glazes. You will learn how to use and combine these techniques to develop your skills at your own pace, to bring to life your thoughts and ideas through individual tuition.

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### **Do I need experience to take this class?**

No previous experience is needed, just a curiosity to explore and enjoy working with clay in a relaxed and supportive atmosphere. You will be provided with projects and inspiration from a variety of sources and encouraged to develop your own ideas as your experience grows. You will learn the process of making, decorating, and how work is fired in the kiln.

### **If I have worked with clay before what does the course have to offer me?**

You will have the opportunity to become more experienced using advanced techniques, and I will help and support you with your ideas, encouraging further technical and creative challenges.

When your work is completed it is fired quickly in the kiln to maintain the continuity of making and the excitement of achieving a finished piece. The Pottery Studio is well equipped and maintained, although you will need to bring the following:

- Overall, apron or old shirt. Old towel.
- Notebook/sketchbook and pencil
- You can buy tools from a specialist supplier, but a selection of tools found at home will be just as good: knife, fork, teaspoon, old library/bank/store card, lolly stick.
- Broad and fine paint brushes
- Plastic container for tools
- Enthusiasm!

Information sheets will be provided during the course containing technical processes, exhibitions, books and magazine details to further inspire you. I look forward to seeing you at class.

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**Material costs:** The cost of finished work is calculated by weight to cover the cost of materials involved e.g. clay, glaze, firings. Minimum charges (up to 8oz) are 70p/80p/£1, depending on type of clay. All fired work must be collected and paid for.

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