

# HEALTH & SAFETY ADVICE



Some animal diseases can be transmitted to humans. There is a small risk of children acquiring infections such as Cryptosporidium, Campylobacter and Salmonella. These organisms can be found in some farm animals and may be contracted by hand to mouth contact.

As it is difficult to stop very young children putting their hands in their mouths after touching the animals, we advise that children under 3 years **DO NOT** touch the farm animals.

## Important Health & Safety Rules

1. Wash your hands using soap and running water, before eating or smoking and after handling the animals.
2. After handling animals please wash your hands with soap and water before using the disinfectant gel.
3. Do not allow the children to kiss animals or drink from animal water troughs.
4. Do not allow children under 3 years of age to touch the farm animals.
5. Children should not put fingers in their mouths.
6. Children should be forbidden from eating sweets or other snacks during the visit.
7. Eat only in the designated eating areas allocated.
8. Do not allow children to climb on any walls, fence or gates.
9. All cuts, wounds & grazes must be covered with a waterproof dressing to avoid infection.
10. Children's dummies that have fallen to the ground should not be put back into children's mouths.
11. Wear suitable clothing / footwear, take into account the weather (Winter/Summer).
12. Stay with your group.
13. Ensure all responsible adults are aware of the rules.
14. Smoking is not permitted within the farm, one designated smoking area is in the car park only.

## Pregnant Women

Ewes are sometimes infected with an organism called Chlamydia Psittaci, which can cause miscarriage in women. The risk is very small, but it is important to be aware of the potential problem. To avoid this risk, pregnant women must not have any contact with newly born lambs, kids or the birth products of sheep or goats.

## Minimum Adult to Child Ratio - Based on HSE Guidelines

The ratio of children to (Supervisors/teachers/assistants/parents) should be:

**1:1** - children under 1 years old  
**1:2** - children between 1 and 2 years old  
**1:3** - children between 2 and 3 years old  
**1:4** - children between 3 and 5 years old  
**1:8** - children 5 years +

**If supervision levels are less than this there should be no direct contact with animals.**

# STAY SAFE WHEN VISITING



## Stay Safe when visiting our farm

Following the simple rules listed below will help to keep you and your children safe from E. coli O157 and other infections that may be found on open farms. Pregnant women need to take extra care.



**This sign means  
Now Wash Your  
Hands**

You may see this sign all around the farm and it is there to remind you to wash your hands.



**This sign means  
STOP and Wash  
Your Hands**

You may see this sign at the entrance to cafe's and at the exits to the farm and it is there to STOP you leaving the farm without washing your hands.



**If you see this  
sign it means this  
is where you can  
wash your hands**

**This is a Clean Hands Zone**



# WASH YOUR HANDS



## Washing Your Hands

### After

- touching the animals
- playing on the ground
- tying your laces
- using the toilet

### Before

- eating food or sweets
- touching food
- putting hand in mouth
- leaving the farm



**1**

### Wet your Hands

### Use Soap

Soap for about 20 Seconds



**2**



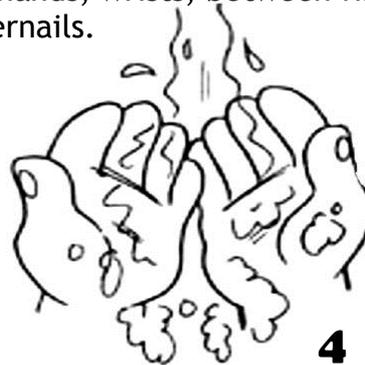
**3**

### Scrub

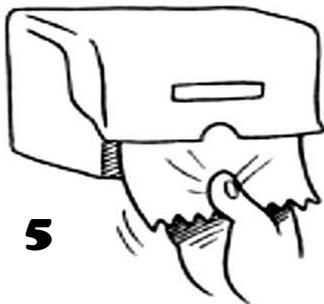
Scrub backs of hands, wrists, between fingers and under fingernails.

### Rinse you hands

Rinse your hands under running water.



**4**



**5**

### Towel dry

### Turn off

Turn off taps with paper towel & then bin it



**6**

# Risk Assessment Summary

## Part 1 of 3



Site / Activity	Risks and associated hazards	Post Action Level	Controls already in place / Action required by visitors and staff
Weather	slipping, falling, Heat exposure, Sunburn, wind exposure.	Low	Please ensure that all children have sufficient protection for all types of weather. For inclement weather children must be adequately dressed with a waterproof coat and Wellingtons/ sturdy footwear. In hot weather we advise sunhats and sun cream be worn at all times. Visitors, teachers & leaders should be aware of the possibility of wet grass and take adequate precautions against slipping and falling.
Group Supervision	slipping, tripping, falling, lost children.	Low	The supervision of the children remains the responsibility of the parents, teachers or group leaders at all times during the visit. Our staff can only guide groups providing there are additional adults present at all times. We advise leaders to make a preliminary visit to the farm prior to the main group visit.  <b>See Health &amp; Safety Executive guidelines for adult/child ratios</b>
Car/Coach Park & Vehicles	Slipping, tripping, falling, injury from other vehicles	Low	The car park will be in use by other vehicles, therefore please ensure that children are closely supervised when they alight from the coach. Keep you group together and away from traffic, make sure children are instructed not to run in the car park.
Walking, running, climbing.	slipping, tripping, falling	Low	Visitors should take care when walking around the site. We advise all visitors to wear sensible and appropriate footwear to match the conditions on the day of the visit, contact the farm if unsure. Visitors should take care at steps, road and path edges to avoid tripping and falling. Children must be adequately supervised and instructed not to run, climb walls, gates or other objects situated on or around the site.
Site Traffic	Various	Low	No unaccompanied farm or public vehicles are allowed in the main visitor area during our opening times, except in emergencies & emergency vehicles, staff to assist in access.
Tractor & Trailer Ride	Various hazards, loss of control	Low	All passengers are to remain seated until the tractor has stopped and to keep your arms inside the trailer at all times. Supervisors should ensure that the people in your group adhere to these instructions. A trained tractor driver will secure the steps and safety chain on trailer before departure, a maximum load capacity applies. The tractor and trailer are regularly checked and maintained.
Prohibited areas	Various Hazards	Low	It is the Supervisors responsibility to ensure that children are instructed not to go beyond the designated areas. Prohibited areas are indicated, sectioned off & are only accessible to staff.
Pond	Falling, slipping, drowning.	Low	The welfare of the children remains the responsibility of the parent, teacher or group leaders at all times during the visit. Children must be adequately supervised and instructed not to climb the walls or railings that are surrounding the pond and not to enter the pond are for any reason.
Play Area & Soft Play	Falling, tripping, slipping, colliding, climbing.	Low	Daily inspection and visual check of all equipment and play area by a member of staff. All surfaces meet British Standards relating to safety in playgrounds, which in this case is mainly cushion fall. Parent & carers must supervise children in their care. No Running, No Footwear is allowed but socks MUST be worn, Height & Age restrictions apply. All framework is covered with protective soft material.

# Risk Assessment Summary

## Part 2 of 3



Site / Activity	Risks and associated hazards	Post Action Level	Controls already in place / Action required by visitors and staff
Electrical equipment	Fire, Electric Shock	Low	Visitors should not come into direct contact with any electrical equipment during your visit. Please <b>DO NOT</b> touch or interfere with any equipment as it may cause harm. Electrical work is carried out and professionally maintained by qualified electricians.
Fire	Various hazards, panic, loss of control	Low	Fire Risk Assessments have been carried out for the farm and adequate controls are in place. In case of fire, Supervisors should ensure that the children in their care go to the fire assemble point in either the <b>Car Park</b> or the <b>Play Area</b> . Supervisors should ensure that a roll call is taken of their charges.
Chemicals	Inhalation, skin contact, eye	Low	Chemicals are used around the farm, all safety precautions are taken to ensure visitors do not come into contact with chemicals.
Displays & Events	Various	Low	Individual displays, demonstrations, events are controlled by their own Risk assessments, these are produced in respect of each activity and are available on request.
First Aid Allergy Bees Wasps Insects Pollen	Stings Allergy Hay Fever Asthma	Low	<p>Bees and wasps are natural inhabitants of the countryside and pose no risk unless provoked, If children are stung seek first aid from your assigned guide or a nearby member of staff.</p> <p>Teachers &amp; visitors should make themselves aware of the pollen count prior to the visit to the farm &amp; take all necessary precautions.</p> <p>Ensure that asthma sufferers bring their inhalers.</p> <p>Visitors with allergies should take necessary precautions in advance of a visit to the farm, groups leaders to ensure required First Aid is appropriate to the group they are leading and parental permission is sought.</p>
Feeding Animals	Biting, scratching, Itching eyes, contact and risk of reaction from animal or feed or Allergies	Low	<p>Visitors should not touch the animals unless encouraged to do so by the guides or members of staff. Supervisors should ensure that children wash their hands with running water and liquid soap after touching the animals.</p> <p>Please ensure there is adequate group supervision according to the age of your group, warning signs and/or double fencing is in place where animals may bite. When feeding the animals ensure that the hand is flat and fingers are straight.</p> <p>Please adhere to the '<b>Please do not feed</b>' signs that are placed beside animals.</p> <p>All children must be supervised when feeding the animals.</p> <p>Please note that animal feed may contain traces of nuts.</p> <p>Please advise us if any children are allergic to animals.</p> <p><b>We advise that all children under the age of 3 years DO NOT touch the animals.</b></p>

# Risk Assessment Summary

## Part 3 of 3



Site / Activity	Risks and associated hazards	Post Action Level	Controls already in place / Action required by visitors and staff
Designated Eating Areas	Infection	Low	<p>Only eat in Designated eating areas that have been allocated. Eating areas are animal free zones, any animals found in eating areas are to be removed immediately and the area cleaned appropriately.</p> <p>Eating areas are cleaned regularly with appropriate cleaning materials and staff are to ensure that soap and water is available at all times.</p> <p>Visitors are advised to wash their hands after feeding the animals, before eating &amp; smoking and before exiting the farm.</p>
Barrel Ride	Falling, tripping, slipping	Low	<p>Only trained/authorised drivers may operate the ride. Seat belts are checked by the driver before departure, passengers must be advised to keep arms and legs within the barrel at all times.</p> <p><b>Maximum speed: 5 mph      Recommended Age: 3 years upwards</b></p>
Animal Zoonoses Foot & Mouth/ Blue Tongue Avian Flu	Various	Low	<p>Supervisors should ensure that everyone in their care wash their hands with liquid soap and running water before handling food or drink and before exiting the farm.</p> <p><b><u>Disinfectant Gels are not a substitute for using soap and water and is only a temporary measure until you reach hand washing facilities.</u></b></p> <p>Supervisors should be aware that there is always a risk from infection in all environments, the countryside and agricultural establishments are no exception.</p> <p>It is advisable to ensure that a waterproof dressing protects any existing cuts or abrasions.</p> <p>Please also remind the children not to put their fingers in their mouth after touching or feeding the animals, as this is difficult to control with younger children</p> <p>All Stock are inspected on a daily basis prior to opening.</p> <p><b>We advise that all children under the age of 3 years <u>DO NOT</u> touch the animals.</b></p> <p>Advice is/will be taken from DEFRA regarding the situation in the event of an outbreak. A regional outbreak may result in the farm having to close, all pre-booked visits will be contacted and advised of the situation in such an event.</p>
Pregnant Women	Miscarriage	Low (Spring)	<p>Ewes are sometimes infected with an organism called Chlamydia Psittaci, which can cause miscarriage in women. Warning signs are in place in risk areas and farm guides also give a verbal warning. Pregnant woman must not have any contact with newly born lambs, kids or the birth products of sheep or goats. Visitors with concerns should notify a member of staff for more information.</p>
Bouncy Pillow	Falling, tripping, slipping, colliding, climbing.	Low	<p>Daily inspection and visual check of the equipment by a member of staff. Parent, carers and teachers must supervise children in their care. <b>Running, Footwear or Summersaults are NOT</b> allowed but socks <b>MUST</b> be worn. Number of users and age restrictions apply, and must be adhered to for safety, not operation in wet weather.</p>

\*Detailed risk assessments are available for viewing on preliminary visits, Please ask a member of staff.