

RISK ASSESSMENT

This Risk Assessment is a pre-visit safety brief for children, teachers and visitors on the potential hazards associated when visiting our farm - all of which can be avoided.

We take every precaution to manage all eventualities associated with the risks of visiting a working farm, please remember that animals have a mind of their own and heavy machinery is constantly operated.

We kindly ask that all visitors please pay attention to information and instructions being shared by members of our staff upon arrival and during the experiences.

- *Make sure that children wear appropriate clothing and footwear for the day - please consider bringing their rain coats.
- *Our staff must be notified if any visiting child suffers from any type of allergies.

HAZARDS	COMMENTS
Escaped Animal	Our animals are very used to human activity. Many have been with us since birth. Each have their own personality and need to be respected. However, if you feel uncomfortable around animals - please call a member of our team. If one of our animals for some reason manages to escape their enclosure, please do not engage and keep a safe distance. Larger animals do kick so please make sure to never stand directly behind them or to their side.
Feeding Large Animals	Please make sure that when feeding our larger animals with feed bought at our Reception - that hands are always held out flat. Our animals are used to being hand fed and it is very unlikely they will mistake your finger for food but this is educational advice that must be practiced. Do not stick fingers, hands and arms in areas where they may get stuck or struck by an animal.
Bites / Injuries	Sometimes animals can be unpredictable and this may be caused by stress brought on by an outside development. Please do not shout at or annoy the animals. They adore attention and require a gentle interaction. Make sure not to overcrowd and give them space to enjoy each and every visitor.
Avoiding Infection on Farm Visits (illness, allergy, disease)	We take the welfare of our visitors, staff members and animals very seriously. We ask that hands are washed before and after every interaction with our animals and that feet are dipped before entering the farm and on exit of the farm. Please see our Farm Rules information sheet for further details.
Tractor Rides	Please make sure to keep hands and feet within the trailer at all times. Before getting on and off the trailer make sure that the engine is off and at a stand still. Do not walk around the vehicle when it is moving and where you can't be seen by the driver. Always listen to instructions from the member of staff in charge of the vehicle.
Car Park / Moving vehicles	Although we have put barriers, signs and speed bumps to prevent any accidents, we still ask that visitors and especially those with young children take extra care whilst in the car parking areas and on the roads. Do not allow children to be unsupervised or run in these areas.

Wet / Uneven Floor	Like any outdoor location the floors can be uneven and slippery at times. Please take care when making your way through the farm.
Running / Unsupervised Children / Climbing Objects	Children should be supervised at all times and kept in close proximity and instructed not to climb on gates, fences, walls etc., in order to prevent any physical injuries.
Farm Access - Straying into prohibited areas	Please keep within the farm boundaries. Do not climb over fences or go through closed gates. There is signage throughout the farm to help prevent any straying.
Animal Interaction / Movement	When interacting with any type of animal you have to be aware of their body language, behaviour and make sure to respect their space. Animals tend to approach us humans out of curiosity and to inspect. If they feel safe enough they may get close enough to be petted. Most of our larger animals are used to and overjoyed to be fed special treats purchased by our visitors at the reception. Some animals such as the pigs should not be petted.
Insects	Natural inhabitants of the countryside - pollinators and most other insects pose no risk unless provoked.

