

Farm Visit Risk Assessment – to be read in conjunction with the Teachers Information Pack

The most important thing to remember when visiting our farm is that you remain responsible for your group at all times. We are on hand to make your visit run smoothly, lead the activities and answer any questions you may have about your visit.

There are safety signs around the farm in areas of particular danger, but we rely on visitors using their common sense and not treating a working farm as if it was a play area! Below are a few common hazards that could be found on our farm, and how visitors should deal with them:

HAZARD/ACTIVITY	RISK ASSOCIATED WITH HAZARD	POTENTIAL TO CAUSE HARM	CONTROLS ALREADY IN PLACE AND ACTION REQUIRED BY VISITOR
Running children	Slipping, tripping, falling	Low	Children must be supervised
Wet grass/mud	Slipping, falling	Low	Supervisors should be aware of the possibility of wet grass and take precautions
Uneven surfaces	Slipping, falling	Low	All should take care and wear sensible footwear
Road and path edges	Slipping, tripping, falling	Low	All should take care
Climbing on objects	Slipping, tripping, falling	High	Children must be instructed not to climb on walls, gates, fences etc
Car park	Moving vehicles	High	Children must be controlled at all times when exiting and boarding the trailer rides/coaches
Main road	Traffic	High	Children must be made aware of the road, and to keep away from it
Farm machinery	Moving vehicles	High	Children must stay in their groups and be made aware that large machinery is on site
Foreign objects	Cuts, burns, abrasions	Low	Supervisors must ensure that children do not pick anything up unless instructed to do so
Animals	Infection, biting, crushing & kicking	High	Supervisors must ensure that children wash their hands after handling animals, and especially before eating
Bees, wasps, insects	Stings	Low	These cannot be controlled by the farm and are low risk unless provoked
Chemicals and substances	Inhalation, skin and eye contact	High	No chemicals are kept in public areas
Infection	Various	Low	Washing hands is essential; cuts should be protected by a dressing.
Petrol/diesel	Fire, explosion	High	All tanks are locked to avoid access by the visitors
Electrical equipment	Fire, electrocution	High	All appliances are inspected. Visitors should not touch or interfere with electrical equipment
Straying into private areas	Unidentified hazards	Low	Supervisors should ensure that children do not wander off, and stay in their groups
Buildings	Unstable walls/ roofs/falling debris	Low	Visitors are only allowed access to safe buildings
Moat/ponds	Falling in the water	Low	Supervisors should ensure that children do not get too close to the water
Play areas	Falling, tripping	Low	Children must be supervised
Trailer ride	Falling over, falling when getting off	Low	Supervisors must ensure that children stay sitting down when the tractor is moving and help children down when the ride is finished