

RISK ASSESSMENTS



Activity / Area / Task	School & Groups Visits:
	This assessment can be used by Schools and Group Leaders to aid them to draw up their own risk assessment. This is not your risk assessment as it cannot cover transport, levels of supervision require and similar but it does demonstrate what Mead Open Farm has done to control the risks. Group leaders are welcome to attend the site for a pre visit check to undertake a risk assessment.
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What are the hazards / tasks / activity?	Who could be harmed and how?	What are the control measures?	Risk Rating	What further measures are required?	Target completion date/ Comments / progress
<p>Slips, Trips</p> <p>Risk to children and parent / guardian / carer</p> <p><u>Risk of minor or major injury from:</u></p> <p>Slips on substances or slippery surface</p> <p>Trips over items and poor ground conditions</p> <p>Slippery or wet floors</p> <p>Trailing cables, poor housekeeping, obstructions on floor</p> <p>Uneven surfaces and changes in level</p> <p>The most common cause of major injuries. 95% of major slips result in broken bones.</p>	<p>Risk to children and parent / guardian / carer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Staff make regular checks on housekeeping ▪ Suitable access routes provided around farm ▪ Spillages cleared up, spills kits in place ▪ Maintenance of floor surfaces, keep pot holes etc. down – particularly in pedestrian areas ▪ Floors kept tidy, clean and dry ▪ Avoid trailing cables ▪ Bins to keep site tidy ▪ Litter picking undertaken ▪ Changes in level highlighted with yellow paint etc. where significant risk of trips ▪ Continue to patch / repair roadways and pedestrian walkways to reduce slip and trip hazards ▪ Good lighting internally and externally ▪ Salt or grit in icy conditions in main pedestrian walkways ▪ The farm staff regularly inspect the site to identify hazards and risks 	<p>Medium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sensible non slip footwear advised ▪ All visitors are advised to take care while on the premises ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is provided at all times ▪ An invitation for the group leader to visit the premises free of charge is permitted to enable teachers / group leaders to carry out their own risk assessments and to check suitability etc. ▪ All visiting groups must have adequate numbers of adults to supervise children, including extra provisions for special needs groups. Schools & similar are expected to follow levels of supervision recommended in current guidelines 	

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<p>Livestock</p>	<p>Risk to children and parent / guardian / carer</p> <p><u>Risk of injury from:</u> Crushing, bites, pecks, gores</p> <p><u>Risk of ill health from:</u> Zoonoses from touching livestock or contaminated surfaces</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Full zoonoses control in place – including risk assessment, CoSHH Assessment and Visitor Safety Plan. Compliance with the Code of Practice for visitor attractions ▪ Double fencing in non contact areas so there is no direct or indirect contact with livestock ▪ In dedicated contact areas there is hand washing facilities and signage displayed ▪ Regular checks on fencing ▪ Only domestic breeds on the farm (no zoo licence required) ▪ The farm staff regularly inspect the site to identify hazards and risks ▪ An invitation for the group leader to visit the premises free of charge is permitted to enable teachers / group leaders to carry out their own risk assessments and to check suitability etc. ▪ Paths, gates, fencing etc. are regularly cleaned and disinfected to reduce the risk of infection from zoonotic disease and kept free from faeces and urine from livestock. The farm is kept as clean as practicable. ▪ Any “activities” arranged are supervised by trained staff at all times and following standard rules and procedures ▪ Manure and compost heaps in secure staff only yard away from public contact ▪ New born lambs / pregnant ewes are a risk to pregnant women and clear signs displayed to avoid contact 	<p>Medium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leader must take responsibility to ensure children and adults wash hands when leaving animal contact areas ▪ Group leaders to ensure there is no eating, drinking, chewing gum / sweets in animal contact areas ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is provided at all times. To be aware the risk to vulnerable groups such as women of child-bearing age who are or may be pregnant, or those with an existing health condition is increased. Children are also of particular risk (under 7's in particular) and when in large groups adequate number of responsible adults must be provided to properly supervise ▪ Make sure group supervisors are aware of the risk from children placing their fingers in their mouth and petting or kissing the animals. Stress they must not eat or chew (including sweets) outside the food only areas and never eat food which has fallen to the ground, or taste animal foods; also not to suck fingers or put hands, pens, pencils or crayons etc in mouths. ▪ The Group Leader should ensure cuts or abrasions on exposed skin should be covered with plasters to minimise the risk of entry by biological agents. 	

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<p>Moving Vehicles and farm equipment</p>	<p>Risk to children and parent / guardian / carer</p> <p><u>Risk of death or serious injury from:</u> Being struck by moving vehicles Falling from tractor trailer ride</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Access is wide enough for visiting vehicles and ample parking is provided for cars and coaches ▪ Traffic management signs displayed ▪ Risk assessments in place – limited use of farm vehicles during opening hours and would be driven at slow speeds / flashing beacons and escorted where necessary ▪ All staff driving farm vehicles are trained ▪ Tractor trailer route is in a non-public area and safety rules are documented and followed ▪ Safe queuing area for tractor trailer rides ▪ Tractor trailer ride may not be operating in bad weather if there is a safety risk ▪ Farm vehicles are maintained safely and daily checks recorded. Farm machinery and equipment kept away from public access 	<p>Medium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is provided at all times and especially in the car park ▪ On arrival, the Group Leader should inform the farm of arrival PRIOR to the group disembarking from the vehicle. This is to ensure arrangements for the visit can be put into place and children are not in the car park area waiting as there may be moving vehicles. ▪ All schools and organised groups should undertake their own risk assessment for the visit 	
<p>Play Equipment</p>	<p>Risk to children and parent / guardian / carer</p> <p><u>Risk of death or serious injury from:</u> Falling from or onto equipment Slipping or tripping Defective equipment Boisterous play</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rules of play signs displayed ▪ Supervision of higher risk attractions by trained staff e.g. skytrail, Go-Karts, Climbing wall and adequate information given to users ▪ Annual inspection by ROSPA or similar inspection body for all play equipment ▪ Staff undertake daily, weekly and monthly formal checks on all play equipment ▪ Risk assessments in place ▪ Impact protection provided ▪ Compliance with relevant standards and guidance for all play equipment ▪ Defective equipment would be taken out of use immediately and access prevented ▪ All play areas are in dedicated no animal contact zones 	<p>Medium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is provided at all times ▪ Rules of play to be followed 	

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Falls from height	Risk to children and parent / guardian / carer <u>Risk of death or serious injury from falling from height</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All play equipment has relevant guard rails, safety features etc. in compliance with relevant standards for play equipment ▪ Play equipment inspected and maintained ▪ Sky trail and climbing wall have specific safety precautions, supervision by trained staff and fall arrest equipment ▪ Emergency and rescue procedures in place ▪ Impact protection under fixed outdoor play equipment 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is provided at all times ▪ Rules of play to be followed 	
Fire	Risk to children and parent / guardian / carer <u>Risk of death or serious injury from:</u> Smoke inhalation Burns Building collapse Explosion <u>Risk of ill health from:</u> Burns, smoke inhalation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Full fire risk assessment in place ▪ Maintained fire precautions around site (fire extinguishers, fire alarms, smoke detection, emergency lighting) ▪ Documented Emergency Procedures ▪ Trained Staff 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is provided at all times ▪ Instruction from Farm Staff to be followed 	
Adverse weather	Risk to children and parent / guardian / carer <u>Risk of death or serious injury from:</u> Lighting Slips <u>Risk of ill health from:</u> Sunburn Hypothermia Hyperthermia Sunstroke, dehydration fainting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Certain attractions and play equipment are weather dependant and will be closed if deemed to be unsafe ▪ Buildings to provide shelter ▪ Buildings are lit and heated 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is provided at all times ▪ Correct clothing for expected weather conditions to be worn ▪ Sensible non slip footwear advised ▪ Ensure adequate hydration maintained ▪ Sun block advised for strong sunlight 	

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Falling Objects	Risk to children and parent / guardian / carer <u>Risk of death or serious injury from:</u> Crushing, striking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The farm staff regularly inspect the site to identify hazards and risks ▪ Heavy objects secured where necessary ▪ Bale stacks etc. in staff only areas ▪ Staff only areas are kept as secure as possible 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is provided at all times 	
Insect bites / stings	Risk to children and parent / guardian / carer <u>Risk of death or serious injury from:</u> Anaphylaxis <u>Risk of ill health from:</u> Anxiety, panic, phobia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ First aiders and first aid equipment on site with first aid room ▪ Wasp traps installed around the farm as needed 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is provided at all times ▪ Call a first aider while at the farm if assistance is needed 	
Plants, Trees, Weeds	Risk to children and parent / guardian / carer <u>Risk of death or serious injury from:</u> Falling branches / trees Climbing, falling <u>Risk of ill health from:</u> Allergic reaction, stings from nettles, poisonous plants, irritation to skin, ingestion of berries causing ill health etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tree safety management plan in place around the farm park to manage dead or diseased trees ▪ Vegetation around the farm is managed – to remove poisonous plants such as giant hogweed and to manage stinging nettles, brambles etc. in public areas ▪ Mowing and maintenance off vegetation / trees, removal of irritant plants / weeds where required & practicable 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is provided at all times ▪ Call a first aider while at the farm if assistance is needed 	
Ponds, Watercourses	Risk to children and parent / guardian / carer <u>Risk of death or serious injury from:</u> Drowning <u>Risk of ill health from:</u> Bacteria, blue green algae bloom etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pond is completely fenced ▪ Waterplay activity has no standing water which could cause a risk of drowning ▪ No water features pose a risk 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is provided at all times 	

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<p>Food and Drink</p>	<p>Risk to children and parent / guardian / carer</p> <p><u>Risk of death or serious injury from:</u> Burns, scalds from hot food Slips or trips on debris dropped on the floor</p> <p><u>Risk of ill health from:</u> Food poisoning, food allergy or intolerance</p> <p>Zoonoses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No eating or drinking is permitted in animal contact areas ▪ Eating and drinking should only be in dedicated areas ▪ Hand washing required before eating and drinking and always on exit of animal contact areas ▪ Dropped food and drink should be cleared up and/or reported to a member of staff ▪ Mead Open Farm has full food hygiene controls in place (staff training, cleaning procedures, HACCP food safety management systems in place) ▪ Food allergen information is available for food and drink products on site 	<p>Med</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is provided at all times – including during refreshments ▪ Hand washing when leaving animal contact areas must be supervised ▪ To ensure children / visitors do not have sweets or drinks in animal contact areas ▪ Group leaders must ensure the rules of the park are followed ▪ Dropped food and drink should be cleared up and/or reported to a member of staff ▪ Groups should be aware of any special food requirements of their group and to provide information to Mead Open Farm where we are providing the catering 	
<p>Fencing</p>	<p>Risk to children and parent / guardian / carer</p> <p><u>Risk of death or serious injury from:</u> Livestock escape, splinters, damaged fencing causing injury, electric shock from electric fencing</p> <p><u>Risk of ill health from:</u> Zoonoses from contaminated surfaces</p> <p>Tetanus</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fencing is regularly checked and maintained ▪ Fencing is periodically disinfected in animal areas ▪ Double fencing in non contact areas ▪ Electric shock signs displayed on electric fencing but this should not be accessible to the public in any case 	<p>Low</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is provided at all times 	

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Accident, Emergency or sudden illness	Risk to children and parent / guardian / carer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trained first aiders on the farm ▪ First Aid Room ▪ Documented Emergency Procedures ▪ Trained Staff ▪ Fire Risk Assessment in place ▪ Radio's and telephones to alert emergency services quickly when necessary ▪ Good access for emergency services around the site 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is provided at all times ▪ Visiting Groups would be expected to follow direction given by the Farm staff in the event of an emergency 	