

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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Last Review Date:	02/02/2022 Luke Beacall



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<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>	<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 potholes 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 nonslip footwear advised ▪ All visitors are advised to take care while on the premises ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is always provided ▪ 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 always supervised by trained staff 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. Older lambs used for bottle feeding / contact. New-born lambs and mothers are double fenced from direct or indirect contact as far as possible. 	<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 always provided. 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 Car park</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Access is wide enough for visiting vehicles and ample parking is provided for cars and coaches ▪ Parking areas in main car park are marked out with overflow parking. There is a large pedestrian crossing from the overflow car park to the main entrance ▪ Traffic management signs displayed including 10mph sign on the access road ▪ 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 always provided 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 	

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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 always provided ▪ Rules of play to be followed 	
Play Equipment	Risk to children and parent / guardian / carer <u>Risk of death or serious injury from:</u> Falling from or onto equipment Slipping or tripping Defective equipment Boisterous play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rules of play signs displayed. Supervision of higher risk attractions by trained staff e.g., sky trail, Go-Karts, climbing wall and adequate information given to users. <i>These may be closed at certain times of the day / year and when weather compromises safety.</i> ▪ 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 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is always provided ▪ Rules of play to be followed 	

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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 always provided ▪ Instruction from Farm Staff to be followed 	
Falling Objects	Risk to children and parent / guardian / carer <u>Risk of death or serious injury from:</u> Crushing, striking head or body	<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 always provided 	
Adverse weather	Risk to children and parent / guardian / carer <u>Risk of death or serious injury from:</u> Lighting Slips. Lightning <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 ▪ Health and safety guidance is published on the web site covers clothing, sun etc. 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is always provided ▪ Correct clothing for expected weather conditions to be worn ▪ Sensible nonslip footwear advised ▪ Ensure adequate hydration maintained ▪ Sun block advised for strong sunlight 	

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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 dedicated first aid room (new in play barn for 2019) ▪ Wasp traps installed around the farm as needed 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is always provided ▪ 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 always provided ▪ 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 (mains water not recirculated water) ▪ Very shallow running water in bunny walk through is fenced (recirculated water) ▪ No water features pose a risk 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is always provided 	

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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></p> <p>Burns, scalds from hot food</p> <p>Slips or trips on debris or liquids dropped on the floor</p> <p><u>Risk of ill health from:</u></p> <p>Food poisoning (food pathogens), food allergy or intolerance</p> <p>Zoonoses (cross contamination from livestock or contaminated surfaces)</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 and staff are allergen trained in food areas ▪ Cross contamination controls are in place, one weaker point is relying on public to maintain good hand hygiene on site 	<p>Med</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is always provided – including during refreshments ▪ Hand washing when leaving animal contact areas must be supervised ▪ To ensure children / visitors do not have food including 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 dietary requirements of their group and to provide information to Mead Open Farm where we are providing the catering and in particular severe food allergies 	

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<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 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 ▪ Livestock escape procedures in place 	<p>Low</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is always provided 	
<p>Accident, Emergency or sudden illness</p>	<p>Risk to children and parent / guardian / carer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trained first aiders on the farm ▪ First Aid Rooms (new one in Play barn for 2019) ▪ Documented Emergency Procedures ▪ Trained Staff ▪ Fire Risk Assessment in place ▪ Radios and telephones to alert emergency services quickly when necessary ▪ Good access for emergency services around the site ▪ Health and safety guidance is published on the web site 	<p>Low</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is always provided ▪ Visiting Groups would be expected to follow direction given by the Farm staff in the event of an emergency 	