

HEALTH, SAFETY AND EDUCATION AT CHURCH FARM STOW BARDOLPH

These notes are issued to teachers in advance of a visit to advise of the particular safety issues relating to a farm visit.

Please ensure that they have been read and understood by the adults in attendance with the group on the day of your visit to Church Farm.

General information about your visit to Church Farm.

All teachers are entitled to a free preliminary visit to undertake a risk assessment. It would be helpful if you could ring the office before you make such a visit on 01366 382162. (You are welcome to bring your families on this visit, but they will have to pay the normal entrance fee)

There is a shop at Church Farm selling a good range of small items. We welcome children into the shop, or bags of small souvenirs can be made up, in advance. If you let us know how much you would like to spend, we will be able to discuss the type of things available.

Ice creams and lollies can also be ordered in advance.

We have wheelchair access to most of the farm, although some of the paddocks are only accessible over grass. The trailer used for the tractor ride cannot accommodate a wheelchair, at the moment.

Church Farm or its representatives will at no time be in loco parentis. Visiting group leaders remain at all times responsible for the safety, discipline and behaviour of all members of the group.

Before your visit

- There should be at least one adult supervisor for every five KS1 children in your group and at least one adult for every eight KS2 children.
- Ensure that all cuts and grazes are covered with a waterproof dressing.
- Please advise all visitors and particularly those with nut allergies not to handle animal feed.
- Check whether any visitors have any other relevant allergies or medical conditions, which may be affected by the visit.
- Ensure that all adults are familiar with the code of good behaviour and hand washing practice. (See Below)

Code of Good Behaviour

We ask that you tell all the children and accompanying adults that they are expected to follow the following codes of good behaviour on their visit to Church Farm. This will increase your enjoyment of the visit.

- Do not kiss the animals.
- Wash your hands after contact with animals, before eating and before leaving the farm.
- Do not eat in the animal areas.
- Do not eat food that has fallen on the ground.
- Do not suck fingers, thumbs, pens, crayons etc.
- Do not taste or touch the animal feed.
- Clean footwear after the visit and remember to wash hands that have come into contact with dirty boots.
- Do not pick up tools or equipment.
- Listen carefully and follow instructions given by farm staff.
- Approach and stroke animals quietly and gently and do not chase or tease any animals.
- Please stroke the animals especially in the petting pens, but do not pick them up unless permitted to do so by Church Farm staff.
- Pregnant women are advised not to get too close to, or handle sheep and lambs.

Hand Washing at Church Farm

All animals naturally carry a range of micro-organisms, some of which can be transmitted to humans and can cause illness. By following some familiar procedures the risk of infection can be reduced enormously.

1. It is vital that every child and adult washes their hands thoroughly after touching the animals, before eating or drinking and before leaving the farm. Please ensure that plenty of time is allowed for hand washing. The following is the recommended method of washing hands properly:-
 - Wet your hands,
 - Rub plenty of soap all over your hands and under your finger nails,
 - Use running water to rinse thoroughly.

Hand washing facilities are located in the toilets and next to the petting pens.

2. If anyone who has visited the farm shows any signs of illness after the visit i.e. vomiting or diarrhoea advise them and their parent/guardian to visit their doctor.
3. It is the responsibility of the staff and adults in charge of the children to ensure that hand washing is carried out as suggested. Church Farm is responsible for providing the facilities to enable you to do this.