

Health & Safety Rules

Some animal diseases can be transmitted to humans. There is a small risk of children acquiring infections such as **Cryptosporidium**, **Campylobacter**, **Ecoli 0157** and **Salmonella**. These organisms can be found in some farm animals and may be contracted by hand to mouth contact.

As it is difficult to stop very young children putting their hands in their mouths after touching the animals, we advise that children under 3 years **DO NOT** touch the farm animals.

Important Health & Safety Rules

1. Wash you hands using soap & running water before eating or smoking and after handling the animals.
2. After handling animals please wash your hands with soap and water before using the disinfectant gel.
3. Do not allow the children to kiss animals or drink from animal water troughs.
4. Do not allow children under 3 years of age to touch the farm animals.
5. Children should not put fingers in their mouths.
6. Children should not eat sweets or other snacks during their visit to Lowlands farm.
7. Eat only in the designated eating areas allocated and times specified by your guide.
8. Do not allow the children to climb on any walls, fence or gates.
9. All cuts, wounds & grazes must be covered with a waterproof dressing to avoid infection.
10. Children's dummies that have fallen on the ground should not be put back into children's mouths.
11. Wear suitable clothing and footwear, take into account the weather (Winter/Summer).
12. Stay with your group.
13. Ensure all responsible adults are aware of the rules, the group remains your responsibility.
14. NO Smoking, including e-cigarettes are not permitted within the farm, this also applies to the Play Area and Paddocks. we have only one designated smoking area which is the **CAR PARK ONLY**.

Pregnant Women (Spring / Lambing Time)

Ewes are sometimes infected with an organism called Chlamydophila Psittaci, which can cause miscarriage in women. The risk is very small, but it is important to be aware of the potential problem. To avoid this risk, pregnant woman must not have any contact with newly born lambs, kids or the birth products of sheep or goats, please feel free speak to your guide in confidence but signs will advise you to stay outside of the Lambing Poly Tunnels.

www.nhs.uk/chq/pages/934.aspx?CategoryID=54

Minimum Adult to Child RaHo - Based on HSE Guide lines

The ratio of children to (Supervisors/teachers/assistants/parents) should be:

- 1:1** - children under 1 years old
- 1:2** - children between 1 and 2 years old
- 1:3** - children between 2 and 3 years old
- 1:4** - children between 3 and 5 years old
- 1:8** - children 5 years +

If supervision levels are less than this there should be no direct contact with animals.

Health & Safety Signage

Stay Safe when visiting our farm

Following the simple rules listed below will help to keep you and your children safe from E. coli O157 and other infections that may be found on open farms. Pregnant women need to take extra care.



**This sign means
Now Wash Your
Hands**

You may see this sign all around the farm and it is there to remind you to wash your hands.



**This sign means
STOP and Wash
Your Hands**

You may see this sign at the entrance to cafe's and at the exits to the farm and it is there to STOP you leaving the farm without washing your hands.



**If you see this
sign it means this
is where you can
wash your hands**

This is a Clean Hands Zone



Washing you Hands - Health & Safety

After

- touching the animals
- playing on the ground
- tying your laces
- using the toilet

Before

- eating food or sweets
- touching food
- putting hand in mouth
- leaving the farm
- Smoking



1

Wet your Hands



2

Use Soap

Soap for about 20 Seconds



3

Scrub

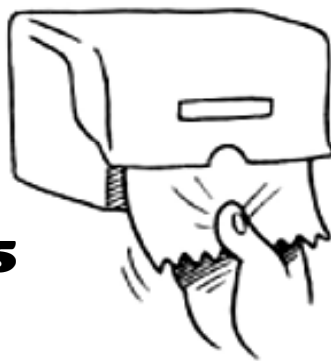
Scrub backs of hands, wrists, between fingers and under fingernails.



4

Rinse you hands

Rinse your hands under running water.



5

Towel dry



6

Turn off

Turn off taps with paper towel & then bin it

School Groups and Individuals

Risk Assessment Summary

1

Activity	Risks	Post - Action Risk Level	Control Measures Required by (V) - visitors and (S) - staff
Weather	Slipping Heat exposure Sunburn wind exposure Cold	Low	(V) Please ensure that all children have sufficient protection for all types of weather. For inclement weather children must be adequately dressed with a waterproof coat and Wellingtons/sturdy footwear. In hot weather we advise sunhats and sun cream be worn at all times. Visitors, teachers & leaders should be aware of the possibility of wet grass and take adequate precautions against slipping and falling.
Group Supervision	Slipping Tripping Falling lost children	Low	(V) Supervision of the children remains the responsibility of the parents, teachers or group leaders at all times during the visit. Our staff can only guide groups providing there are additional adults present at all times. You are welcome to make a preliminary visit to the farm prior to the main group visit. See Health & Safety Executive guidelines for adult/child ratios
Car/Coach Park & Vehicles	Slipping Tripping Falling Injury from other vehicles	Low	(V) (S) The car park will be in use by other vehicles, therefore please ensure that children are closely supervised when they alight from your vehicles. Keep you group together and away from traffic, make sure children are instructed not to run in the car park.
Walking Running Climbing	Slipping Tripping falling	Low	(V) We advise all visitors to wear sensible and appropriate footwear to match the conditions on the day of the visit, contact the farm if unsure. Children must be adequately supervised and instructed not to run, climb walls, gates or other objects situated on or around the site.
Site Traffic	Various	Low	(S) No unaccompanied vehicles are allowed in the main visitor area during our opening times, except in emergencies and emergency vehicles, staff to assist in access and areas may be closed in order to gain access to required site.
Prohibited Areas	Various	Low	(V) It is the Supervisors responsibility to ensure that children are instructed not to go beyond the designated areas. (S) Prohibited areas are indicated, sectioned off & are only accessible to staff.
Alpaca Activities	Injury From animals	Low	(V) It is the Supervisors responsibility to ensure that children are instructed not to go behind the Alpacas and to treat them with respect (S) The Group leaders should ensure the children do not hurt the Alpacas or walk behind them and to explain that they are animals with feelings too.

Activity	Risks	Post - Action Risk Level	Control Measures Required by (V) - visitors and (S) - staff
Electrical equipment	Fire Electric Shock	Low	<p>(S) Visitors should not come into direct contact with any electrical equipment during your visit.</p> <p>(V) Please DO NOT touch or interfere with any equipment as it may cause harm. Electrical work is carried out and professionally maintained by qualified electricians.</p>
Fire	Various Panic loss of control	Low	<p>(V) (S) Fire Risk Assessments have been carried out for the farm and adequate controls are in place. In case of fire, Supervisors should ensure that the children in their care go to the fire assemble point in either the Car Park or the Play Area as directed by staff.</p> <p>Smoking / e-cigarettes are NOT permitted within the Farm</p>
Chemicals	Inhalation skin contact eye contact	Low	<p>(S) Chemicals are used around the farm, all safety precautions are taken to ensure visitors do not come into contact with chemicals.</p> <p>(S) Chemicals are stored securely in a locked secure area.</p>
Displays & Events	Various	Low	<p>(S) Individual displays, demonstrations, events are controlled by their own Risk Assessments, these are produced in respect of each activity and are available on request.</p>
First Aid	Stings Allergy Hay Fever Asthma	Low	<p>If children/adults are stung seek First Aid from your assigned guide or a nearby member of staff.</p> <p>(V) Teachers & visitors should make themselves aware of the pollen count prior to the visit to the farm & take all necessary precautions.</p> <p>(V) Ensure that asthma sufferers bring their inhalers.</p> <p>(V) Visitors with allergies should take necessary precautions in advance of a visit to the farm, groups leaders are to ensure the required First Aid is appropriate to the group they are leading and parental permission is sought in advance of the visit and emergency contact information is up-to-date.</p>
Feeding Animals	Biting Scratching Itching eyes Animal Allergy Infection	Low	<p>(V) Teachers / Parent should ensure that children wash their hands with running water & liquid soap after touching the animals, and again before eating, before leaving the farm and after removing footwear.</p> <p>(V) Visitors should not touch the animals unless encouraged to do so by our staff.</p> <p>(V) Please ensure there is adequate group supervision according to the age of your group, warning signs and/or double fencing is in place where animals may bite. When feeding the animals ensure that the hand is flat and fingers are straight.</p> <p>(V) Please adhere to the 'Please do not feed' signs that are placed beside animals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Children must be supervised when feeding the animals. * Animal feed may contain traces of NUTS. * Please advise us if any children are allergic to animals. * We advise you to take additional measures if you have any particularly vulnerable children in your group e.g. weakened immune systems. <p>We advise that all children under the age of 3 years DO NOT touch the animals.</p>

Activity	Risks	Post - Action Risk Level	Control Measures Required by (V) - visitors and (S) - staff
Designated Eating Areas	Infection	Low	<p>(V) Only eat in Designated eating areas that have been allocated.</p> <p>(S) Eating areas are animal free zones, any animals found in eating areas are to be removed immediately and the area cleaned appropriately.</p> <p>(S) Eating areas are cleaned regularly with appropriate cleaning materials and staff are to ensure that soap and water is available at all times.</p>
<p>Animal Diseases</p> <p>Foot & Mouth</p> <p>Blue Tongue</p> <p>Avian Flu</p> <p>E.coli 0157</p> <p>Cryptosporidium</p> <p>Salmonella</p> <p>Campylobacter</p> <p>Chlamydomphila Psittaci</p>	<p>Infection</p> <p>Various</p>	Medium	<p>(V) Teachers / Parents should ensure that everyone in their care wash their hands with liquid soap and running water before handling food / drink and again before exiting the farm and after removing footwear.</p> <p>Disinfectant Gels are not a substitute for using soap and water and are only a temporary measure until you reach hand washing facilities.</p> <p>We advise that all children under the age of 3 years DO NOT touch the animals.</p> <p>(V) Teachers / Parents should be aware that there is always a risk from infection in all environments, the countryside and agricultural establishments are no exception. It is advisable to ensure that a waterproof dressing protects any existing cuts or abrasions. Please also remind the children not to put their fingers in their mouth after touching or feeding the animals, as this is difficult to control with younger children</p> <p>(V) All Stock are inspected on a daily basis prior to opening.</p> <p>(S) Advice is/will be taken from DEFRA regarding the situation in the event of an outbreak. An outbreak may result in the farm having to close, all pre-booked visits will be contacted and advised of the situation in such an event.</p>
Pregnant Women	Miscarriage	Low (Spring)	<p>(V) (S) Ewes are sometimes infected with an organism called Chlamydomphila Psittaci, which can cause miscarriage in women. Warning signs are in place in risk areas and farm guides also give a verbal warning. Pregnant woman must not have any contact with newly born lambs, kids or the birth products of sheep or goats. Visitors with concerns should notify a member of staff for more information.</p> <p>https://www.nhs.uk/chq/pages/934.aspx?CategoryID=54</p>
Pond	Falling slipping drowning	Low	<p>(V) The welfare of the children remains the responsibility of the parent or group leaders at all times. Children must be adequately supervised around the pond and must not to enter the pond area for any reason.</p> <p>(S) The water level is monitored and reduced if necessary.</p>

*Please ask a member of staff when booking if you require more detailed information.