**GROUP VISITS RISK ASSESSMENT FOR HESKETH FARM PARK 2025**

At Hesketh Farm Park the Health and Safety of our visitors is our number one priority.

We work with local and national experts as well as the local authority to constantly assess the safety of our provision.

As part of our approach to managing Health and Safety we continually appraise our facilities and risk assess all activities.

We hope you enjoy your visit. Should you have any queries please contact a member of staff who will be happy to help.

Please undertake a pre-visit checklist and briefing for the children on safety aspects including allergies, covering of cuts etc which may be relevant.

You will be given a welcome and safety talk upon arrival at the farm. Please make sure that children have appropriate clothing for the day (including wet weather and suitable footwear). Please also ensure the correct ratio of pupil’s assistants/supervisors.

Hesketh Farm Park staff are not responsible for the supervision of children.

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| **ACTIVITY** | **HAZARDS** | **RISK LEVEL** | **ACTION – RISK REDUCTION MEASURES** |
| Weather | Heat exposure, sunburn, wind exposure | Low | Supervisors and children should 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 worn at all times. No open toe sandals or flip flops to be worn. |
| Wet Grass | Slip/Trip/Fall | Low | Supervisors and children should be aware of the possibility of wet grass and take adequate precautions. |
| Uneven Surfaces | Slip/Trip/Fall | Low | Supervisors and children should wear suitable footwear and take care when walking. Children should be instructed not to run. All routes selected as safe. |
| Bees/Wasps | Stings/Bites | Low | Trained First Aiders are always available with first aid room on site.  These are inhabitants of the countryside and do not pose a threat unless provoked. |
| Chemical Substances | Inhalation, skin contact, eye contact | Low | All substances & chemicals used on the farm park are kept in a locked building away from visitors. |

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| **ACTIVITY** | **HAZARDS** | **RISK LEVEL** | **ACTION – RISK REDUCTION MEASURES** |
| Lost Children | Child becomes separated | Low | Supervisors to have a list of children in their care and to carry out a periodic check of numbers. Group Leaders to instruct children of the action required if lost. Count pupils on to the coach and then again before departure. All children to be accompanied by an adult. Group visits must comply with the recommended adult to child ratio. |
| Designated Eating Areas | Zoonoses (Infection from animal to human) | High | Only eat in designated eating areas that have been allocated. Eating areas are animal free zones.  Supervisors must ensure that children wash their hands with warm water and soap, drying thoroughly after animal contact and before eating. |
| Electrical Equipment | Fire/Burns/Electric Shock | High | Supervisors and children should not come into contact with electrical equipment during a visit. All electrical work is carried out by qualified Electricians and regular checks made for damage or signs of wear.  Annual PACT tests undertaken.  Supervisors and children should not touch or interfere with electrical devices. |
| Play Areas | Falling/ Tripping/Entrapment/Crush injuries/Impact | Medium | Children must be supervised at all times. All signage instructions must be adhered to at all times. Play equipment is checked daily and results recorded with any remedial action required carried out immediately. All our equipment is independently inspected on an annual basis.  Supervisors must ensure that children wash their hands after playing in play areas and on play equipment and before eating or drinking. There are plenty of hand washing facilities on site. Hands MUST be washed with warm running water and soap and dried. |
| Spiders Net Seasaws  Zip Lines  Dragon Swing | Falling/Slipping/Landing awkwardly/Muscle strain | Low/Medium | These areas are covered with play bark and kept to a minimum depth of 300 mm. These activities are checked daily and the results recorded. Annual Play equipment inspection by the Play Inspection Company. |
| Pedal Go Karts | Collision/Falling/Tripping/Crush injuries  Participant run over  Equipment misuse  Poor vehicle control. | Low/Medium | Supervisors remain fully responsible for children at all times and must ensure that age restrictions are adhered to. Advised to travel in an anti-clockwise direction with no running across the track. All visitors are asked to share and behave responsibly and team regularly check.  This activity and condition of the track is checked daily and recorded. |
| **ACTIVITY** | **HAZARDS** | **RISK LEVEL** | **ACTION – RISK REDUCTION MEASURES** |
| Straw Maze | Tripping/Falling/Slipping/Collision | Low/Medium | Supervisors and children should be aware of the risk of loose straw and take adequate precautions against slipping and falling.  Group Leaders should ensure that all signage is adhered to and the supervision of the children remains the responsibility of the Group Leaders at all times.  Daily checks of this activity are made and the results recorded with any remedial action taken. |
| Sand Diggers | Falling/ Tripping | Low/Medium | This area is covered with sand and kept to a minimum depth of 300 mm.  The activity is checked daily, results recorded and any remedial work undertaken immediately. |
| Sandpits | Tripping/Slipping/Sand in eyes | Low/Medium | The sand complies with British Standard BS5665 and is rounded sand.  Both sandpits are checked daily with results recorded and the sand is replaced annually.  Supervisors and children should be aware that signage is adhered to for the prevention of sand being thrown. |
| Pond | Falling into water/Infection | Low | The pond is fenced off to ensure children cannot fall in. |
| Tractor Ride | Falling over/Falling when entering and exiting the ride/Crush Injuries/Impact from moving vehicle | Medium | Supervisors must ensure that the children remain seated throughout the ride and are assisted on and off the trailer and all seat belts fastened. Speed limit never exceeds 7 mph.  This activity is checked daily and the results recorded. Our driver has received formal training and possesses formal certification. |
| Large and Small Tractors | Falling over/Falling when entering and exiting the cab | Medium | Supervisors must ensure that children adhere to the signage which allows seating in the cab only and no climbing on the outside of the tractors. |
| Egg Collecting | Risk of Salmonella and Campylobacter from contaminated shells and environment/Allergies  Zoonoses (Infection from animal to human) | High  High | Group Leaders should advise and ensure that children do not  put their hands in their mouths and hands washed prior to consuming food  Hands MUST be washed with warm running water and soap and dried with paper.Daily checks made of the health and wellbeing of the poultry. |

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| **ACTIVITY** | **HAZARDS** | **RISK LEVEL** | **ACTION – RISK REDUCTION MEASURES** |
| Paddock Walk | Zoonoses/Falling/Slipping/Muscle Strains | High | Children must be supervised at all times.  Supervisors to ensure that suitable clothing and footwear be worn.  All walking routes selected as fit for purpose and no entrance into animal Paddocks.  Supervisors must ensure that children wash their hands after touching any fences, gates, wildlife before eating or drinking.  There are plenty of hand washing facilities on site. Hands MUST be washed with running water and soap and dried with paper.  Daily checks are made, findings recorded and any remedial work carried out immediately. |
| Food Kiosk | Food poisoning | High | All controls recorded daily. Possession of food hygiene certificates. Water testing undertaken by local Environmental Health. |
| Animal Contact | Infection/Biting  Zoonoses | Low  High | All animals on site are handpicked for their docile nature. Supervisors must ensure that children wash their hands after handling, feeding or stroking the animals before eating or drinking.  There are plenty of hand washing facilities on site. Hands MUST be washed with running water, and soap and dried with paper towels. Appropriate signage is displayed. Training given to staff. Use of appropriate disinfectants throughout the animal areas. Regular inspection by vets. Wash hands thoroughly at home with soap and water after removing dirty clothes, shoes or boots that have been worn at the Farm Park. Any soiled clothes should be washed immediately upon returning home. |
| Animal Droppings | Infection/E.coli/Cryptosporidium/  Zoonoses | High | Our indoor animal pens are cleaned and all gates disinfected daily which are recorded. Visitors are prohibited from entering the animal enclosures; therefore, the risk of footwear being contaminated is reduced. Public pathways are free from animals and droppings removed should they occur. |
| Pregnant Ewes | Toxiplasma/Miscarriage in adult females | High | We advise no contact with sheep, lambs, goats and kids if you are pregnant or think that you may be pregnant as this is a risk to adult females. |

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| **ACTIVITY** | **HAZARDS** | **RISK LEVEL** | **ACTION – RISK REDUCTION MEASURES** |
| Animal Feeding | Infection biting/ Zoonoses | High | Feeding of specific animals is only permitted at set times and supervised by the Farm Park staff.  Supervisors must ensure that children wash their hands after handling or feeding the animals, touching animal fences and before eating or drinking.  There is plenty of hand washing on site. Hands MUST be washed with warm running water and paper towels.  Wash your hands thoroughly at home with soap and water after removing dirty clothes, shoes or boots that have been worn at the Farm Park. Any soiled clothes should be washed immediately upon returning home. |
| Animal Handling  Pony Grooming | Infection Biting/Zoonoses  Kicking, Biting,crushing | High  High | We only handle small animals ie. Chicks and Guinea Pigs which are under supervision from our staff.  It is at the supervisor’s discretion if the group wish to take part in this activity.  Supervisors must ensure that children do not put their hands in mouths and wash their hands after handling or feeding the animals, touching animal fences and before eating or drinking. Supervisors must also make children aware that animals require treating with respect.  There is plenty of hand washing on site. Hands MUST be washed with running water and soap and dried with paper towels. Wash your hands thoroughly at home with soap and water after removing dirty clothes, shoes or boots that have been worn at the Farm Park. Any soiled clothes should be washed immediately upon returning home.  The ponies used are known to be well natured and used to public contact.  Activity is only run at for a short time and supervised at all times.  Grooming instructed to be to the side of the pony with no walking to the rear of the animal.  Hand washing located on site. Hands MUST be washed with warm running water and soap and dried with paper towels. |

Emergency First Aid Room located in the lower building near the refreshments.

In case of fire, the fire alarm will be activated, alert a member of staff who will call 999. Evacuate the buildings.

Assemble at the Fire Assembly Point outside to the left of the Exit Gate.

Local Hospital:

Airedale General Hospital

Accident and Emergency

Steeton

Keighley

West Yorkshire

BD20 6TD

Telephone No. 01535 652511