



Health and Safety - Middle England Farm

We take the Health and Safety of our visitors, animals and staff very seriously. We have public liability insurance in place, and employers liability to protect staff and volunteers.

We have personal protective equipment and we have hand washing facilities and signage around the farm reminding people to wash their hands after handling animals. We also verbally remind people to do so regularly.

The Health and Safety lead is Andrea Stevens-Moore. All staff are fully aware of the policies in this document.

Protection of Staff and Visitors

Everyone should wash their hands and use disinfectant hand rubs provided prior to, and after handling animals. Hand rubs are positioned around the farm.

Everyone must wash their hands if they've been in contact with droppings, blood, urine or any other bodily fluids.

All cuts to be covered with a plaster/dressing prior to animal contact.

Visitors must not have contact with any animal that is suspected to have or diagnosed as having an infectious illness.

Considerable care should be taken to avoid passing infections from one farm to another by ensuring clothes and shoes are changed before visiting another farm and hands thoroughly cleaned. All visitors to be supervised to ensure infection control policy is followed.

Signs are displayed to remind people to wash their hands.

Hand rub is kept throughout the farm in full view of visitors who will be encouraged to use it. Hand washing is the preferred method of cleansing. Hand washing is available next to the shop. Foot disinfectant baths to be used on entry to animal paddocks. Staff to supervise this. Provided by Farm and Country Direct and Disinfectant used Defra Approved Zal Perax 11.

Site Safety

Visitors are not allowed onsite without an appointment, which prevents anyone wondering around freely. Our gates remain shut when guests are on site. Car parking is monitored and each car is told where to park as they arrive. Guests are told to stay by their cars until the experience starts, unless using the toilet facilities. Care Farm guests are escorted from their cars by a member of staff.

Children under 18, taking part in an animal experience, are always accompanied by their adults at all times and we remain with the visitors at all times also. Care Farm guests will be accompanied at all times by a member of DBS cleared staff.

First Aid

We have a first aid box located in the shop, and staff carry small first aid kits on them when hosting experiences/care farm. A further full first aid kit is currently in the staff room (caravan)

First aid boxes are checked regularly to ensure they are fully stocked. Tom Stevens-Moore and Jeanne Shotton are trained in first aid. Jeanne is trained in paediatric first aid. Tom is sitting his Paediatric First Aid course in March.

Risk assessments are completed for all activities. The Health and Safety Representative is Andrea Stevens-Moore. All accidents are reported in our accident book which is kept in the shop. This is constantly reviewed to check for any patterns or to ensure actions have been completed to avoid similar incidents.

Tools and Equipment

All tools and equipment are stored in the feed shed behind a barrier. No one has access to this area unless accompanied by a member of staff.

Fire Safety Management

We have developed a fire safety strategy and made advance plans for dealing with fire emergencies.

Reducing the Threat of Arson

We are vigilant to anyone entering the farm at all times. There is only one entrance and exit for vehicles. All people are approached immediately to ascertain their intentions.

Smoking

Smoking and vaping is not allowed anywhere on the farm and there are signs up to reinforce this.

Hot work

We do not undertake any hot work on the farm.

Machinery Maintenance

We do not have farm machinery other than a ride on lawn mower, quad bike and poo hoover. These are kept in a good state of repair and serviced regularly. Guests do not have access to these and keys are kept in the house for safety.

Substances Hazardous to Health

All substances hazardous to health are kept in a lockable cabinet which is located in the feed shed, which has barriers around it to stop people entering.

Ensuring the safe burning of rubbish

Every effort is made to dispose of rubbish safely without burning. Where this is necessary we have a designated place acres away from any animals or buildings. This is done under strict conditions and only Tom partakes in such disposal methods. Guests would never be anywhere in the vicinity.

Promoting good workshop practice

Flammable/combustible materials i.e. paper etc is not left in any quantities near any animal shelters. A very small quantity of petrol is stored in metal approved containers in the garage to which there is no access to anyone but the owners and staff. The garage is located a good distance away from the hay store, feed store and any animal shelters.

Escape routes

Escape routes and passages are kept free from any stored materials or equipment. As we are an outdoor provision this is not a matter of real concern.

Emergency Procedures

In case a 999 call has to be made we have notices displayed on the hay barn and the shed stating where the fire extinguishers are kept, where the landline is located, our full address, land gathering point coordinates and fire evacuation point.

IN CASE OF FIRE

Foam fire extinguishers are located in the shop, meerkat enclosure and the classroom (classroom arriving in March).

Powder fire extinguishers are located in the garage, meerkat enclosure and the classroom.

We have several supplies of water around the farm. There is a tap located in the goats paddock and there is a natural water supply to the front of the farm, another to the side of the farm land and yet another at the back of the farm land.

Smoking and vaping is banned on the farm. Signage is in place to re-enforce this.

If necessary do not delay and call 999.

Address is: Aibrean Grange, Redditch Road, Ullenhall, Henley in Arden, B95 5NY.

Land gathering point is SP1067 9207.

A landline is located in the house if necessary.

In case of fire, the alarm will be raised via gas horn/bell. Visitors will be escorted to the fire assembly point by staff which is the car park. Staff are trained in fire evacuation procedures, and reviews of fire procedures and fire drills are carried out regularly.

Grass fire - we inspect the grounds regularly for glass that could cause a fire. Disposable bbq's and smoking is banned, therefore the risk is lowered. All staff are advised to call 999 using the land reference point to ensure the fire brigade can attend quickly.

Fire risk assessment is covered in our general risk assessment document.

Fire Detection

Smoke is a major hazard in the event of a fire. As our animals have free access in and out of their shelters they would not be restricted and therefore would not be at risk of smoke inhalation.

The marquee always has a minimum of one side open and the other side is easy access velcro, therefore smoke would also not be an issue with this.

The farm house itself has several smoke detectors positioned around the house.

Fire Drills

Fire drills are carried out regularly and staff and guests are made aware of the procedure to meet at the fire assembly point which is in the car park. The Fire Drill Book is kept in the shop and completed after each drill.

Water Safety

We have a pond/small lake at the front of the property. This is not easily accessed and is shallow in nature. We have a life saving ring on the front and there is gated access which is only allowed if accompanied by a member of staff.

In Summary

All sensible fire precautions must be taken.

All staff properly trained for emergency action and are aware of where fire fighting equipment is located and how to use it. Extinguishers kept in garage and shop.

All staff familiar with this policy.

Any new buildings should meet the most up to date standards on fire safety.

Any new power services to be installed and regularly maintained by fully qualified and approved operators.

Availability of water supplies and easy access for the fire brigade is essential. Keep an eye on natural sources.

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