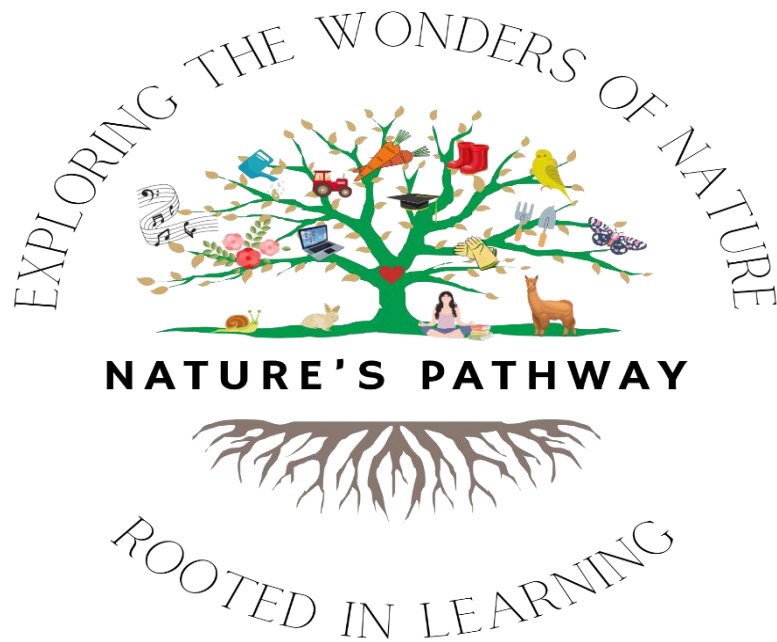


# Natures Pathway



## Animal Welfare Policy

Commencement Date: 06<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Review Date: 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Signed: N. Butler

## Introduction

### Natures Pathway

Farm is a working smallholding covering 6 acres. It keeps a range of animals to support the aims of the care farm including horses, sheep, goats, and a range of poultry, and small animals, rabbits, guinea pigs, budgies, ferrets. Whilst the primary aim of keeping the animals is to support the learning

Policy Statement We adhere to legislation set by DEFRA "Welfare of Farmed Animals (England) Regulations 2007" and the "Welfare of Farmed Animals (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2010" and the Five Freedoms of animal welfare as recommended by Farm Animal Welfare Council and the RSPCA.

### **The Five Freedoms are as follows:**

1. Freedom from hunger or thirst by ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigour
2. Freedom from discomfort by providing an appropriate environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area
3. Freedom from pain, injury or disease by prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment
4. Freedom to express (most) normal behaviour by providing sufficient space, proper facilities and company of the animal's own kind
5. Freedom from fear and distress by ensuring conditions and treatment which avoid mental suffering.

Unlike most commercial farms, livestock reared and kept at Natures pathway Care Farm have contact with people a lot of the time. Our farmhelpers have all been trained in animal care for the stock we keep and are closely supervised with stock at all times to prevent ill-treatment either deliberate or through ignorance.

The Director is the named keeper of all animal stock and has final responsibility for ensuring animal welfare and maintaining this policy.

When farmhelpers are not available to care for the animals on a daily basis (e.g. weekends) the Director will ensure that someone is available provide for the stock's needs. This will usually be the Director. If the Director is not available, other staff will be paid to come to the farm with the sole purpose of carrying out the animal husbandry duties

This policy was last reviewed on: 6th January 2024

Signed: N Butler

Renew Date 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025 or as needed