



Risk Assessment

Activity: School and Group Trips

Description: School and Group visits within the farm as part of the visitor attraction experience

Updated: 1st January 2020

(Review date 1st January 2021)

Assessed on behalf of Blackberry Farm Park:

Paul Harris

Kim Easter

Main Hazards:

- Injury through play equipment and rides
- Infections from animals (zoonosis), incl E.coli 0157
- Injury from animals, accident, fire or general park
- Injury from other visitors
- Injury on arrival from traffic
- Lost children

Persons exposed:

- Staff
- Public/Visitors

1. Injury through play equipment and rides

Current control measures

Park inspected and approved by Wealden District Council & Jackman Insurance Services

- Annual independent safety checks by Rosper
- Annual service contracts, eg: specialist contractors for ride on vehicles etc
- Every piece of equipment is individually risk assessed
- Close relationship with Wealden District Council, inspections and advice reports
- Accident report procedure in place
- Equipment and play areas designed for 2-10 years old
- Supervision of children required at all times and requirement printed on safety code boards
- Age limit signage on some rides
- High levels of trained staff on site
- Higher risk rides, i.e. drop slide, barrel bugs etc. only run when staffed by trained employees
- Daily visual checks, weekly safety checks and monthly routine checks take place throughout the year and are recorded
- Maintenance staff available every day
- Vehicle rides take place in fenced off and gated track
- Good signage around Park
- Marsh and Co public liability insurance to £5,000,000

Level of risk:

Low

2. Infections from animals (zoonosis), incl E.coli 0157

Persons exposed:

- Staff
- Public/Visitors

Current control measures

- Hand wash basins with hot running water, soap and paper towels at exit from both animal contact areas, plus feet and buggy wash stations at exits from farm walk and farm.
- Routine daily cleaning and use of Ministry approved disinfectants throughout animal areas
- Safety talk given to groups on arrival
- Picnic areas away from animal areas
- Daily visual checks, weekly safety checks and monthly routine checks take place throughout the year and are recorded
- Good relationship with local vets and trading standards
- Annual inspection for riding establishment licence and pet shop licence by vet and by council inspector
- Quarterly animal health inspection by our vets
- Information and link on website to HPA
- Verbal advice to wash hands at the end of all animal handling sessions and pony rides
- Discussion at staff meetings and induction
- Trained livestock staff • Animal-free access to play area
- No 'visiting' dog policy
- Daily facility checks, clean and top ups
- Routine washing of animal barn floors, fences and animal pens
- Public only allowed to feed animals through feeding stations
- Public eating areas away from animal areas
- Animal faeces cleared from pens daily and removed from Farm Park by covered trailer
- PPE on site for staff, ie masks, gloves etc

Level of risk:

Medium

3. Injury from animals, accident, fire or general park

Persons exposed:

- Staff
- Public/Visitors

Current control measures

- All council and independent advice considered and actioned
- Warning signs about animals in barn and signs around farm
- Secure chains on animal pens
- Trained first aid and fire marshal staff
- First aid room
- Lost child and emergency procedures in place
- Radio communication between staff across the park
- All animal areas and equipment risk assessed

Level of risk:

Low

4. Injury on arrival from traffic

Persons exposed:

- Staff
- Public/Visitors

Current control measures

- Group met and supervised by trained staff on arrival

Level of risk:

Low

5. Lost Children

Persons exposed:

- Public/Visitors

Current control measures

- Group met and supervised by trained staff on arrival
- Lost child procedure and staff training

Level of risk:

Low