

Risk Assessment for Sandfield Farm, Sedgeberrow, WR11 7QS (last updated 11.02.2019)

Date and Time of Risk Assessment:

Farmer Name and Signature:

Teacher Name and Signature:

Sandfield Farm is a mixed farm with arable, beef, dairy, pigs and sheep. It has access and a turning area large enough for coaches. There are no areas out of bounds, although certain yard areas may be fenced off by means of a rope or bales during the visit. Toilets, hand-washing and boot washing facilities are available next to the classroom. The first aid kit is in the kitchen area of the visitor room. The emergency procedure notice can be found on both the front and rear door of the visitor room. Fire Extinguishers are inside the visitor room, just inside the front door. Emergency meeting point is the car park.

Action Taken? (y/n)	Risk Area	Potential Hazard	Severity (HLM)	Likelihood (HLM)	Risk (HLM)	Control Measures	Rating
	Parking Area	Falling, crushing, other vehicles	M	M	M	Coach park in car park. Main farm yard roped off or separated by bales. Teachers take control and provide supervision. Children remain on coach until asked to get off.	L
	General-children	Lost or disorientated	M	M	M	Regular head count. Children to know what to do if separated from group. Teachers take control and provide supervision.	L
	General –gates, fences, farm yard	Cuts, abrasions, contamination – E Coli 0157,	H	H	H	Gates and fences are regularly inspected and maintained. Safety briefing conducted at the start of the day. Discourage children from touching gates and fences. Wash hands before eating or drinking and end of visit.	L
	Hazardous substances	Contact with farm and cleaning chemicals. Skin contact, ingesting.	H	M	H	All hazardous substances are locked away during visits. Safety briefing conducted at the start of the day.	L

	Manure and compost heaps	Contamination – E Coli.	H	M	H	Safety briefing conducted at the start of the day. Keep children away. Wash hands before eating or drinking and end of visit. Wash wellies before leaving the farm.	L
	Pond	Drowning. Zoonoses – Weil’s Disease	H	M	H	Safety briefing conducted at the start of pond activities. Restrict access, Lifebuoy and “deep water” sign in place. Supervision, wash hands, avoid water splashing into eyes, nose and throat. Wash any body parts that have come into contact with water e.g. knees. Cover cuts and abrasions with a water proof plaster.	L
	Electric fences	Electric Shock	M	L	M	Switched off prior to school visit where possible. Route away from fence switched on. Warning signs in place.	L
	Barn/workshop	Falling objects, slips, trips and falls	H	M	H	Restrict access. Supervision. Area inspected prior to each visit.	L
	Bridge	Fall, trip and slip	M	L	M	Limit access. Bridge is regularly inspected and maintained. Supervision. Hand rail.	L
	Farm vehicles	Struck. Crushed	H	M	H	Safety briefing conducted at the start of the day. Restrict access. Limit use of machinery during farm visit. Main farmyard roped off. Supervision. Farm workers are made aware of presence of school children.	L
	Stored materials e.g. pallets	Struck. Falling	H	M	H	Safety briefing conducted at the start of the day. Restrict access. Discourage children from climbing. Supervision	L
	Bulls	Crushed. Struck	H	M	H	Restrict Access. Children not to enter same field as a bull	L
	Brambles and nettles	Scratch or sting	L	H	M	Safety briefing conducted at the start of the day. Remind children during visit. Cut pathways. Area inspected prior to each visit	L
	Berries/Fungi	Poison	M	M	M	Safety briefing conducted at the start of the day. No eating policy on farm, other than from lunch box at allocated time	L`
	Flowers and weeds	Some poisonous plants. May irritate the skin or cause dermatitis	M	M	M	Safety briefing conducted at the start of the day. Children may be allowed to pick weeds/flowers under supervision. Avoid touching eyes. Never taste. Hands must be washed afterwards.	L

	Dead wood, eye level branches	Trip hazard, cause harm to eyes or face	M	M	M	Safety briefing conducted at the start of the day. Area inspected prior to each visit and any eye level branches are removed. Warn children. Show children.	L
	Farm dog	E-coli	M	M	M	Safety briefing conducted at the start of the day. Children to wear plasters on cuts and abrasions. Children to wash hands before eating lunch and before leaving the farm	L
	Weather	Heavy winds, thunder and lightening	M	L	L	Visit not to take place in extreme weather conditions. If the weather worsens during a visit, children to be taken to the classroom or coach	L
	Farm animals	Biting, kicking, E-coli	M	L	M	Safety briefing conducted at the start of the day. All farm animals are behind fencing (pigs have double fence). Children to wear plasters on cuts and abrasions. Children to wash hands before eating lunch and before leaving the farm	L
	Passenger Trailer	Tipping of trailer	H	L	M	Tractor and trailer are serviced and maintained and inspected before use. The farm is relatively flat. Only an experienced tractor driver 18 years or over will drive the tractor. An alarm system is in place between trailer and driver.	L
	Passenger Trailer	Falling out of trailer	H	L	M	Trailer is fully enclosed. Trailer is serviced and maintained and inspected before use. At least one adult will be on the trailer to supervise the passengers. The tractor will not pull the trailer until a clear signal has been given from the trailer supervisor to the tractor driver. The door of the trailer will be closed when in motion. Seatbelts will be used where required.	L
	Play Wood	Falls, falling objects, trips, stick injuries.	H	M	M	Visitors are briefed on the potential hazards before entering the wood. This includes a demonstration on how to carry sticks carefully. Running with sticks and climbing is forbidden. Supervision. Play equipment is inspected before each visit.	L
	Play Wood – tyre swing	Falling off, hitting tree trunk	H	M	M	Adult supervision required when tyre swing in place. Natural materials underneath the tyre swing. Swing height less than 2.5m. Ground inspection before each visit. High level inspection every 3 months.	L

	Play Wood – music area	Hit by drum stick	M	M	M	Drums are spaced out. Supervision.	L
	Play Wood – stepping trunks	Slip off trunk steps	H	M	M	Weekly inspection to take account of ageing process, removal of loose objects such as moss. Supervision. Trunks less than 2m high	L
	Play Wood – blind fold trail	Bump into trees, tripping, stick injuries	H	M	M	Inspection before each visit. Removal of any eye level sticks or trip hazards. Clear instructions before use. Supervision.	L
Y	Play Wood – play house	Trap fingers in door, slip on patio	M	M	M	Removal of door to avoid potential trapped windows. Ensure patio is clean. Patio has anti slip surface.	L
	Play Wood – spiders web	Trip over ropes, fall onto roots	M	H	M	Removal of any roots which may poke fallen child. Spiders web clearly marked.	L
	Play Wood – woodchip pile	Fall down pile, fall off plank	H	M	M	Before each visit planks to be carefully placed into position, ensure wood chip pile not too steep. Ensure fall area has only natural material and loose sticks removed. Supervision.	L
	Play Wood – tyre snake and tractor tyre	Fall off or trip over tyres, fall into trees	M	M	M	Three monthly inspection to ensure the tyres are securely fixed into position	L
	Play Wood – dens	Hit by falling sticks, pokes by sticks	H	M	M	Inspect dens before each visit. Ensure all sticks above head height are securely in position. Remove or reposition any sticks which poke out at eye level.	L
	Play Wood- tree house	Fall from tree house	M	M	M	Ensure fall height is less than 2m onto natural materials. Before each visit, ensure ladder and netting are securely in place and well maintained.	L
	Play Wood- digging pit	Hit by fork or trowel	M	M	M	Visitors advised that the fork and trowels are only to be used in the digging pit area. Ensure that group leaders are aware of the tools in the digging pit and allow them to decide if the digging pit requires supervision.	L
	Poly Tunnel	Over heat	M	M	M	Ensure that before visitors enter the poly tunnel the temperature is checked by feel to ensure it is comfortable. Although either end of the polytunnel is closed by way of a barrier, it can be opened in an emergency.	L

Fire Risk Assessment for classroom and toilets

The risk of fire in the classroom and toilets is deemed to be low.

Toilets: electrical items include a light

Classroom: electrical items include several lights, four heaters (mains) and occasionally a computer and a projector

Outside: solar water heater

Electrical supply and equipment is regularly inspected and maintained. Combustible materials are kept to a minimum. All power to be turned off when the classroom and toilets are not in use

The classroom has two fire escapes via the front and back door which are marked. These are to be kept unlocked and clear at all times of classroom use.

In an emergency:

Two fire extinguishers are kept in the kitchen area of the classroom (serviced annually)

Meeting point is in the car park

All visitors to go to the meeting point for a head count

If necessary dial 999 (address Sandfield Farm, Sedgeberrow, Evesham, WR11 7QS)

Safety Briefing at the start of the day

Before visitors leave the classroom and go onto the farm a list of safety concerns is discussed with all visitors. It is made very clear that all visitors must follow Emma unless specifically told otherwise. Topics covered are:

1. bulls – no visitor to enter a field with a bull in

2. chicken – fingers are not to be put through the wire of the chicken pen
3. vehicles – lorries, vans, tractors, cars and quad bikes are present on the farm, all visitors must follow Emma
4. plants to be aware of – stinging nettles, thistles and thorns
5. no eating (including berries) or drinking on farm only in the classroom when told to do so
6. no touching mushrooms and fungi and ‘bird’ cherries
7. wash hands before eating
8. wash hands and boots before leaving the farm
9. sticks – demonstration on how to carry sticks safely (short down the leg, long drag behind)
10. logs – children must work together to roll a heavy log or ask an adult
11. holes – visitors must look out for animal holes when walking around the farm and warn others
12. dogs – when playing with dogs throw the ball rather than hold the ball and ‘tease’ do not remove ball from dogs mouth

Further Sources of Information : Risk verses benefit approach

1. www.playengland.net nature play: maintenance guide, managing risk in play provision
2. www.fairplayforchildren.org
3. Playlink
4. Monkey -do trees and nets
5. Forestry commission – nature play simple ideas and fun ideas for all
6. Forestry commission – growing adventure (further information and contact list)
7. Forestry commission – rope swings, dens, tree houses and fires
8. Fallen trees as climbing structures in playgrounds - Sutton, Whewey and Richardson

9. Rospa -play safety training courses

First Aid for Stings -

Aim to remove the sting and venomous sac. Don't massage the area as this spread the venom. If possible remove the sting with a bank card or finger nail.

Wash area with soap and water. Put a cold flannel on the affected area. If possible raise the affected area to reduce swelling. Avoid scratching the area to reduce risk of infection.

First Aid for Snakes –

In the event of a snake bit, remain calm, snake bites by UK snakes are rarely fatal. Try to remember the shape, size and colour of the snake. Keep the part of the body which has been bitten as still as possible to reduce the venom spreading around the body. The bitten part of the body may be secured in a fixed position with a sling. However do not make the splint/sling so tight that the blood movement is restricted. Jewellery may need to be removed as the infected limb swells.