



The Outbarn  
 Stonyfold Farm, Stony Lane  
 Goosnargh, Preston  
 Lancashire  
 PR3 2WH

T: 07860532857

www.theoutbarn.co.uk

### Stonyfold Farm/ The Outbarn Visit, Risk Assessment.

This General Risk Assessment has been prepared to help teachers, if required, to produce their own risk assessment, and offers:

- Examples of hazards that may be encountered on farms
- Examples Risk Reduction Measures/Actions

The examples given below are not recommendations and are for guidance only. We recommend that schools undertake a pre-visit to the farm and plan to complete an effective risk assessment. Pre visits should be organised through Mark Shorrock, please email [shorrocksltd@gmail.com](mailto:shorrocksltd@gmail.com) or contact on the above details.

#### ACTIVITIES AT Farm

ACTIVITY	HAZARDS	RISK LEVEL (High, Medium, Low)	ACTION - RISK REDUCTION MEASURES	POST-ACTION RISK LEVEL
<b>Alighting from Transport, cars, mini bus and coaches etc.</b>	Straying into road, injury from other vehicles. Falling tripping	Medium	Alight in car park onto level surface. Teachers supervise children alighting from coach. Farm traffic to halt and be aware that visit-taking place.	Low
<b>Contact with Animals</b>	Zoonosis (infection from farm animals to humans). Infection and disease risk	Medium	Visitors advised not to touch animals unless given permission to do so. Advise visitors not to put hands near to their mouth after touching animals. Ensure that hands washed using anti bacterial soap and rinsed in clean running water before eating. Any existing abrasions or cuts to be protected by dressing.	Low
<b>Visits to farms where there will be sheep, cows or goats giving birth</b>	Toxoplasmosis: abortion in pregnant women.	Medium	Inform school staff of risk. No pregnant person or anyone who thinks that she might be pregnant is to accompany a visit to farms where there will be sheep, cows or goats giving birth. If children feed or touch lambs, calves or kids a thorough hand wash should follow ASAP. Only lambs, calves or kids that are several days old should be fed or touched. Lambs, calves or kids that are handled should not have access to areas where ewes, cows or goats are giving birth. Clothing worn by visiting children and adults should not come into contact with ewes, lambs, cows, calves, goats, kids or afterbirth.	Low
<b>Walking on the Farm and Woods: uneven ground</b>	Injury from slipping and falling; wet ground	Low	Children & teachers to wear suitable clothing and footwear. Teachers to maintain group discipline. Walking routes selected as fit for purpose, e.g. maintained public footpaths, by-ways	Low



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<b>Handling animals</b>	Kicking, biting, crushing, trampling	Medium	Visitors should be warned not to enter animal pens unless under supervision of farm staff.	Low
<b>Straying into prohibited areas</b>	Unidentified Hazards	Medium	Supervisors should ensure that children do not deviate from planned route. Children should be adequately supervised. Danger areas should be fenced off with visible danger signs.	Low
<b>Electric and barbed wire fences</b>	Electric shock, injury.	Medium	Warn visitors of danger from electric and barbed wire fences. Plan route to avoid risk from this hazard. Switch off electric fence for duration of visit.	Low
<b>Fungi, toadstools, poisonous plants</b>	Illness and poisoning	Medium	Warn visitors of risks from touching or eating plants from the farm or woodland	Low
<b>Planting, growing and harvesting activities in the field</b>	Infection- bacteria contact	Medium	Keep well away from any working machinery. Advise visitors not to put hands near to their mouth after working with plants/soil. Ensure that hands washed using anti bacterial soap and rinsing in clean running water before eating.	Low
<b>Farm machinery</b>	Crushing, entanglement and being run over.	Medium	Strict supervision at all times, not to touch. Keeping well away from ALL working Machinery, Any working demonstrations to be viewed only from behind suitable barriers, Farm host to cease using and disable ALL farm machinery during visit. Viewing of static farm machinery to be strictly supervised at all times.	Low
<b>Farm chemicals</b>	Inhalation, contact with eyes & skin	Medium	Do not touch. Observe safety notices. Host farmer to ensure substances safely stored and locked away.	Low
<b>Woodland</b>	Injury	Medium	Be aware of risk of falling branches in high winds. Take into account any felling/extraction activities when planning the visit.	
<b>Allergies and Insect</b>	Bites, stings, allergic reactions	Medium	Insects are present in all environments, farms are no exception. Supervisors to be aware of any children with allergies to insects and other irritants, eg pollen. Organisers to bring individual medication for allergies. Organisers should please consider carrying some over the counter allergy medication. Gaining parental permission first.	Low
<b>Ticks</b>	Lyme disease	low	In areas where ticks are prevalent ensure all visitors wear long trousers and socks. School staff to check for ticks at end of visit and, if found, remove by approved means. Make school staff aware of symptoms of Lyme disease and appropriate action to take.	Low



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<b>Slurry tanks, lagoons, grain stores</b>	Infection, drowning, suffocation	low	Under no circumstances approach slurry tanks and lagoons. Approach grain stores only under strict supervision.	Low
<b>Water</b>	Drowning, slipping, falling, infections such as Leptospirosis	Medium	Supervisors must make children aware of the dangers of water. Ensure children are kept away from fast flowing and/or deep water. All cuts and abrasions to be covered before contact with water. Wash hands after contact with water	Low
<b>Missing children</b>	Distress to child, risk of injury	Medium	Supervisors must allocate children to specific adult leaders. Leaders to check regularly that all children in their care are accounted for.	Low

<b>Farm Operations</b>	Injury from working farm machinery, farm deliveries & collections, etc	Medium	Advise staff in advance of school visits. No vehicle movements to take place as children are moving around farm yard. Keep children together in a place visible to the driver and at a safe distance from any moving vehicle.	Low
<b>Unspecified injury</b>	Injury from unstable buildings/unsecured large doors/gates/ladders	Medium	Instruct visitors not to Climb on any structure. Ensure that gates, dual wheels, other equipment are secured and cannot fall. Brief visitors that they must not leave the group and venture into restricted areas of the farm unless given permission.	Low
<b>Weather Conditions</b>	(Depending on time of year)	Medium	Ensure children are suitably dressed with suitable outdoor footwear and adjust activities if children are too hot/cold or there is a risk of sun burn, etc	Low
<b>Stinging Nettles and other plants</b>	Stings, cuts, allergic reactions, poisoning	Medium	Supervisors to point out harmful plants to children and ensure adequate supervision	Low