



ANIMAL PARK RISK ASSESSMENT - GROUP VISITS

We aim to operate under the HSE advice and directive AIS23.

Hope Nature Centre takes health and safety very seriously and expects people in charge of children to act responsibly.

It is recommended that all Group Leaders make a free pre-visit to the Animal Park and carry out their own risk assessment before undertaking an outing.

In the event that a pre-visit is impossible, this document provides a general outline of risks and controls identified.

While the hazard from infection resulting from a visit to an Animal Park is real, the risks are readily controlled by everyday measures. The following sensible steps will help make your visit even more safe, healthy and enjoyable.

As a general rule the ratio of pupils to adults should be

- 1 adult for 3 children 3 to 5 years,
- 1 adult for 6 children, primary
- 1 adult for 10 children, secondary

Children should be supervised at all times.

Please discuss with staff, parents and pupils the following:

- The need for hands to be washed after contacting the animals.
- To follow the rules laid down by the Animal Park.
- That the pupils wear appropriate clothing,
- Check that cuts, grazes, etc on children's hands are covered with a waterproof dressing.

ANIMAL PARK RULES

1. DO NOT distress the animals by shouting, leaping about, poking or prodding the animals.
2. ONLY FOOD PURCHASED at the Animal Park may be fed to the animals.
3. DO NOT climb over barriers.
4. HANDS WASHED before leaving the Centre.

We do reserve the right to evict any group who misbehaves while in the Animal Park.

PROJECT DEVOTED TO ADULTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

<u>RISKS AND HAZARDS</u>	<u>CONTROLS</u>
Possibility of being bitten or kicked	Warning signs on enclosures Safety barriers Feeding of large animals prohibited
Contact with animals — risk of infection or injury	Hand washing facilities in the tearoom. Outside staff toilet near duck pond has hand washing facilities. Alcohol gel located throughout the park with signs Warning signs and advisory signs displayed Supervision by volunteers at animal pens
Deep water in duck pond unfenced Small pond near donkeys. risk of drowning	Danger deep water signs Rescue rope on post located close to pond Vegetation
Climbing on railings, fencing, trees etc_ — risk of falling	Safety notices where relevant
Electric fencing around some Structures, risk from a low voltage Electric shock	Safety notice/warning signs
Children's play area	Adequate flooring underneath equipment Bark chips Supervision notices displayed Play equipment is for use of children between ages 3 years to 11 years
Free roaming animals - risk of Bites or scratches	Do not touch animals when coming near them. No feeding.
Animals being walked around site Risk of bite or kick	Trained handler leading the animal Animals walked quietly and calmly Animals trained and constantly monitored by staff
Vehicles/land train	Site speed limit 5 m.p.h. Staff driving vehicles are competent and trained. Children to be supervised while riding on the land train and must remain seated. Persons must not pass between carriage and towing vehicle — this is roped off. Signage

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GENERAL ADVICE

The car park is a very busy area and children should be supervised at all times.

Our staff are trained to deal with emergencies so please follow their instructions in the event of a fire, accident etc.

The fire assembly point is by the flag pole in the car park.

First Aid trained staff are available during opening hours.

Advise the children that should they get lost they should make their way to the ticket office which is situated at the entrance to the Animal Park where a member of staff will take charge of them.

A copy of the Public Liability Insurance is available upon request.

We trust you will enjoy your visit.