

HEALTH & SAFETY RISK ASSESSMENT FORM

Please refer to the guidance notes when completing this form.

Service or location:

Rural Care, Church Farm, Ardeley and Aldenham Country Park, Elstree, both locations are in Hertfordshire.

Assessed by: Ann De Bock

Date assessment completed: 05.09.23

Date to be reviewed: 05.09.24

STEP 1: Describe the activity or premises being assessed 1:2 INFECTION CONTROL for FARM STAFF, VISITORS and CO- FARMERS

Rural Care is a project for people with learning disabilities and/or mental health issues. The project offers real life work experience to participants as a method of building confidence and engaging with other people, animals and the wider community.

Under the supervision of experienced staff, participants partake in all aspects of work around the farm which includes areas for growing vegetables, raising livestock, woodland management and helping in the farm café and store.

Rural Care operates on 2 sites Church Farm, Ardeley and Aldenham Country Park.

Rural Care is housed in wooden sheds, close to where some animals are kept for the visiting public to view. The area is partly paved but also has some loose gravel in other areas. Rural Care has its own allotment. At Church Farm Rural Care has its own kitchen and toilet block as well as a separate area for schools with a work shop in a metal container.

Church Farm and Aldenham Country Park are both open farms. Sheep, cattle, goats, pigs and poultry are all reared on the farm and can easily be viewed by the public and some fields are accessible to the public. Both farms and park have a growing area for vegetables, a fruit orchard, a nut orchard and several woodland areas as well as large areas of open water.

The farm offers an internship scheme most of whom live on-site and also has volunteers.

There is a shop and café open to all which sells products from the farm.

The diseases guidance have been taken from the 'guidance for the investigation of zoonotic diseases (England and Wales) April 2016 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/535155/Guidelines_for_Investigation_of_Zoonotic_Disease.pdf

The ones mentioned in this risk assessment are the ones who are common 500+ cases a year, moderate 100<500 cases a year, uncommon <100 cases a year occurrences.

STEP 2: Identify the hazards associated with the activity or premises			STEP 3: List the control measures already in place	STEP 4: Rate the Risk
Hazards	Outcome	People or property at risk	Control measures	Rating
I. Livestock to human: I.1 Absorption: Faeces/urine open wounds, eyes, mucous membranes (a), Foetal membrane on open cuts (b), Soil (c), Direct contact with animals (d) Direct contact with water (e) Unknown (f)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bovine tuberculosis (d) • Campylobacteriosis (d) • E. coli (d) • Fish tank granuloma (d, e) • Leptospirosis (a, e) • Orf (d) • Pasteurellosis (d) • Q fever (d) • Red Mite (d) • Ringworm (d) • Salmonella (d) • Scabies (d) • Tetanus (c) • Yersiniosis (d) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-Farmers • Staff • Volunteers and interns • External staff • Visitors • Campers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-Farmers are supervised at all times • Cuts/grazes are covered prior to task. • Appropriate PPE is worn (e.g. gloves and waist coats) and maintained, especially handling animals or being in contact with animal faeces and soil. 	A3

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I. Livestock to human: I.2 Ingestion Unpasteurised milk (a) Animal products (b) Foodborne (c) Faeces (d) Unknown (f) Water (g)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bovine tuberculosis (a) • Campylobacteriosis (c) • Cryptosporidiosis (d) • Cysticercosis (b) • E coli (d, c) • Food poisoning (a, b, c) • Hepatitis E (f) • Listeriosis (c) • Salmonella(c) • Toxoplasmosis (b, d) • Yersiniosis (c, d) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-Farmers • Staff • Volunteers and interns • External staff • Visitors • Campers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-Farmers are supervised at all times • Rural Care shed hygiene procedures adhered too. • Proper installation and maintenance of hot water system. • Proper maintenance of borehole, regular water sample checks by EHO, yearly change of the UV filter. 	A3
I. Livestock to human: I.3 Inhalation Dried bird faeces (a) Aerosolised urine (b) Compost and woodchip (c) Unknown (f) Poultry dust (g) Dust (h) Water vapour (i)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aspergillosis (c) • Legionella (i) • Ornithosis/Psittacosis (a, b) • Q fever (b) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-Farmers • Staff • Volunteers and interns • External staff • Visitors • Campers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-Farmers are supervised at all times • Correct procedure for egg collecting, cleaning and grading is followed • Reduce dust by adequate ventilation when mucking out (e.g. open both doors), and/or damping down of straw. • If still necessary appropriate PPE is worn (e.g. dust masks). • - Where there is a risk of aerosolised urine in a confined environment, dust masks should be worn 	A3

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1. Livestock to human: 1.4. Injection into the bloodstream: Animal bite(a) Scratch from claws (b) Veterinary injection needles (c) Cuts barbed wire/ rusty nails(d) Tick bites (e) Unknown (f)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lyme disease (e) • Pasteurellosis (a, b, c) • Tetanus (d) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-Farmers • Staff • Volunteers and interns • External staff • Visitors • Campers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-Farmers are supervised at all times • Correct procedure for dealing/looking after animals and animals with young are followed. • Follow first aid procedures 	A3
2. Human to human Cleaning up, faeces, blood, saliva and vomit (a) Providing personal care(b) Providing first aid (a,b) Scratching or biting (a,b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • -Hepatitis A and B, HIV (a, b) • -Diarrhea and vomiting (a, b) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-Farmers • Staff • Volunteers and interns • External staff • Visitors • Campers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-Farmers are supervised at all time. • Rural Care personal care policy and procedure is adhered to, as well as the individual co- farmers risk assessment. • Immunisation against Hepatitis B is not provided for RC staff involved in personal care as according to the RA on the individuals we provide personal care for are not likely to scratch and bite. • Appropriate PPE (e.g. gloves and aprons are worn for cleaning bodily fluids) • Cleaning procedures are adhered and appropriate PPE is worn 	A3

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3. Handling waste material Refuse disposal containing micro-organism (e.g. food waste) Fallen stock, Human waste with blood, human urine, faeces	See outcomes for Livestock to human and human to human	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-Farmers • Staff • Volunteers and interns • External staff • Visitors • Campers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-Farmers are supervised at all times • Appropriate training is provided to staff disposing of waste • Appropriate PPE is worn. • No RC co-farmers should enter the waste area. Fallen stock should only be picked with gloves. 	A3

STEP 3: List the control measures already in place
<p>General control measures for possible ways of infection: absorption, ingestion, injection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good livestock management practices and cleanliness of livestock quarters - Animals are kept reasonably clean - Correct procedures of looking after animals are used. - Regular vermin control is in place. - Boot dips are changed regularly - Boots to be washed when badly contaminated with faeces and at the end of each day and disinfected - Everybody to wash hands after all work/activities and before eating, drinking and smoking. - Adequate training and supervision of all staff in the relevant departments. - Adequate information is in place on the farm about conduct on the farm (e.g. see safety first leaflet, signage, and website) and regular checks are in place. - All staff/ volunteers/ external support and Co-Farmers are strongly advised to have up to date Tetanus vaccination - All staff/ volunteers/ external support and Co-Farmers are trained in infection control on induction and then yearly. - Hygiene procedures are adhered to.

STEP 5: Reviews and further actions completed to reduce the risks

Actions taken	Person responsible	Date completed
All livestock pens in close proximity to Rural Care area to have double fencing or boarding to limit fall out of faeces and straw onto paths	Ann De Bock	March 30, 2013
Co-Farmers to be provided with waterproofs or overalls to cover legs when working with livestock	All	April 30, 2013
Waste area needs further organisation	Farm staff	July/August 2013
Action point from latest EHO visits need following up	Ann and farm staff	April 2013
Update to include risk and additional animals including goats, horses and small animals at Aldenham Country Park	Ann De Bock	08.09.13
Reviewed policy. Added rabbit and guinea pig area to Church Farm. Training given to all staff on 16.5.14. Reinforced the importance of hygiene in egg shed e.g. aprons and gloves	Ann De Bock	16.05.14
Reviewed policy added goats to Church Farm	Ann De Bock	23.05.15
Staff and intern training	Ann De Bock	17.06.15
Reviewed policy	Ann De Bock	05.01.16
Inserted First Aid into Human to human	Ann De Bock	28.04.16
Ingestion added borehole, human to human bites and scratches, added infection control for staff, visitors and Co-Farmers in title.	Ann De Bock	06.05.17
Reviewed	Ann De Bock	08.09.17
Rewrote the description of the activity	Ann De Bock	16.01.18
Water sampling added to borehole	Ann De Bock	21.08.18
Updated and cross referenced with Guidance for the investigation of zoonotic diseases (England and Wales) April 2016	Ann De Bock	25.09.18
Reviewed	Ann De Bock	02.09.21
Reviewed	Ann De Bock	30.11.21
Reviewed and checked Guidance for the investigation of zoonotic diseases (England and Wales) April 2016 is still the most recent version	Ann De Bock	20.03.22
Reformatted to put control measures in main table	Aimee Lauezzari	23.09.22

Severity of the hazard's outcome	
A	Death, major injury, major damage or loss to property or equipment.
B	Injury lasting over three days, moderate damage or loss to property or equipment.
C	Minor injury, minor damage or loss to property or equipment.

Likelihood of outcome occurring	
1	Extremely likely to occur.
2	Likely to occur frequently or often.
3	Slight chance of occurring.

Priority for action	
A1	UNACCEPTABLE Must receive immediate action to remove the risk or stop the activity.
B1/A2	URGENT Must receive attention as soon as possible to remove hazard or reduce the risk.
A3/B2/C1	IMPORTANT Must receive attention to remove the hazard or reduce the risk.
B3/C2/C3	LOWER PRIORITY To receive attention after other priorities.