

Welcome to Acorn Farm

We are a registered charity established in 1985 whose aim is to provide an educational and leisure facility which offers people from the local community the opportunity to experience farming on a practical level. The farm site which covers 4 hectares (approximately the size of 8 football pitches) was originally a tip for builders' rubble and has been transformed through the dedication and hard work of many different people over the years.

We believe everyone has a valued social role within their community regardless of age or ability. Therefore at Acorn Farm you will see people who are able bodied and disabled, young and old working together as a team in all aspects of running the farm.

We try to keep our admission charges and other costs to a minimum to ensure that no one is excluded from visiting us for financial reasons. Any profits generated are used to improve the farm's facilities.

Although we are a working farm and the farm animals are kept for meat production, which is sold in the shop, maintaining a high level of animal welfare is our top priority.

We aim to let all our animals rear their young in the most natural way possible. Like all mammals, lambs and kids thrive best on their mother's milk. As a result you will not see us advertising bottle feeding sessions for our lambs and goat kids on a regular basis. If we have triplets or quads we may have to offer the babies some supplementary bottle feeding as their mothers may not be able to produce milk in sufficient quantities. Very occasionally problems may arise at birth which results in orphans, but we do not condone taking young animals off their mothers so they can be artificially reared as this causes stress to both mother and baby.

The only animals at Acorn which you will see bottle fed on milk are our calves. As we have insufficient space to keep breeding cows we purchase calves from the market. Most calves are a by product from the dairy industry and are separated from their mothers soon after birth as the dairy farmer needs the milk to sell.

If you have any further questions about any aspect of the farm during your visit please find a member of staff who will be pleased to help you.

We hope you enjoy your visit.

Thank you.

Registered Charity Number 516925