

**ACORN FARM**  
**ANIMOBILES - RISK ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOL VISITS**

Meet and greet talk with both staff and pupils to check on group requirements for the day and to talk to pupils re: animal handling/hand washing/safety issues.

- All animals kept in appropriate cages/hutches
- Introduced to children, explain about how we feel different parts e.g. feet & feathers of hens & ducks NOT beaks.
- Remind children not to kiss the animals or put their fingers in their mouths after touching the animals.
- Rabbits & guinea pigs - direction to stroke i.e. head to tail
- Large animals wear harnesses/collars as appropriate to size and age
- Kept in separate dedicated 7' square pens
- Remind children if necessary about not climbing on pens
- All animals provided with food & water
- Show how to feed larger animals - remind about hand washing
- **At end of session remind about importance of hand washing before doing anything else. Hands must be washed thoroughly with soap and water. Gels and wipes do not remove all bacteria.[including e.coli]**
- End of visit - put animals away. Dismantle pens, sweep up & wash down play area (will use disinfectant provided by venue if asked). If inside fold up plastic sheeting to remove any animal debris.
- Arrival/departure in vehicle, ensure access points are clear & safe to proceed
- Some children may have asthma/skin allergies (advisable to seek consent from parents prior to our visit to ascertain if there will be any children who are just to look and not touch.)
- When bringing out young lambs/kids (up to about 6 weeks of age) staff made aware so anyone who could be pregnant can avoid handling them

Apr 18