



Animal Handling Risk Assessment

Risk Assessment		Animal handling risk assessment for whole classes in the gazebo area.						
St Mark's CofE Primary School		Assessment by: Tom Parker				Date: 6 th July 2023		
Review Date: July 2025		Approved by: Charles Applegate				Date: 7 th July 2023		
Hazard/Risk	Who is at risk?	Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating	Mitigations	Additional Control Measures	Completed	
Zoonotic diseases	Staff, Students, visitors	1	6	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not to touch your face or put anything in your mouth whilst handling the animals. - Wash hands as soon as possible before and after handling the animals. Hand gel may be used for immediate contamination. - Eating and drinking is not permitted on the farm. - Hand-washing signage is in place to remind everyone to wash their hands. - Fresh cuts and grazes are covered before handling the animals. - Anyone with a compromised immune system or allergies towards any of the animals are not permitted to handle the animals. - The animal handling gazebo is to be disinfected regularly. - Any animal waste in the gazebo is to be cleared up and disinfected after use. - Any animals showing symptoms of disease are not to be used during handling sessions. - Students are to have carpets on their laps when handling the animals to prevent bringing animal hair back into the school on their clothing. 			

<p>Injury from the animals whilst handling.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pecks - Scratches - Wing flap - Bites 	<p>Staff, Students, Parents, Visitors</p>	2	1	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Anyone, including students, handling the animals are trained and/or assisted by competent staff in the correct handling and restraint procedure. - Do not hold the animals near your face when handling. - Do not run whilst handling the animals. - Do not handle the rabbits unless absolutely necessary. - Keep noise level to a minimum when handling the animals. - Claws are trimmed as necessary. - Any animals that are consistently aggressive towards the children will be re-homed. - Any injuries from the animals are washed and immediately attended to by a first aid trained member of staff. 		
<p>Minor Injuries from the animal handling gazebo</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scratches - Cuts - Splinters - Bruises - Trips and falls 	<p>Staff, Students, Parents, Visitors</p>	2	2	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The gazebo is to be checked on a regular schedule for maintenance issues. - Wear gloves if handling any sharp or splintered wood. - Report any maintenance issues immediately to senior staff. - Keep walkways to and from the gazebo clear of unnecessary debris, clutter, and equipment. - Keep the gazebo clear of any unnecessary debris, clutter, and equipment. - Suitable footwear must be worn on the farm. - Running is not permitted at any time on the farm or in the gazebo. 		

<p>Allergic reactions and respiratory problems. Inhalation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dust, feathers, fur, or bedding materials. 	<p>Staff, Students, Parents, Visitors</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Anyone with known allergies or respiratory issues are not permitted to handle the animals. - Students are reminded in their hygiene and safety briefing to let a member of staff know if they feel unwell at any point during or after handling the animals. - The towels used for animal handling are to be washed regularly to prevent the build up of fur and dirt. 		
<p>Animal Escapes</p>	<p>Staff, Students, Visitors, Animals</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The chickens are not to be taken out of the run for animal handling due to the high risk of escape. - Animals must be held securely when transporting to and from their runs and the gazebo. Ideally by using a pet carrier. - Only staff members are permitted to transport animals to and from their runs and the gazebo. - Animals are not to be left unattended when in the animal handling gazebo. - Children are not to be left unattended whilst handling the animals. A staff member must be present and watching. - The gate to the farm must be closed when handling the animals. - Any animals showing symptoms of stress must be immediately returned to their runs. - Animals must be handled following the correct procedure. I.e., placed on children's laps. 		

Risk Rating = Likelihood x severity	
Likelihood: 1 = highly improbable occurrence 2 = occasional occurrence 4 = fairly frequent occurrence 6 = frequent and regular occurrence	Severity: 1 = negligible injuries 2 = minor injuries 6 = major injuries 10 = multiple major injuries

Risk Rating = Likelihood x Severity
Greater than 17 (requires immediate action or activity must stop)
12 – 16 (High risk)
8 – 11 (Moderate risk)
4 – 7 (Low risk)
1 – 3 (Very low risk)