

The South of England Rare Breeds Centre

Information for Children's Group Leaders

Preparation before you visit –

- Leaders of Children's Groups are encouraged to visit the centre prior to the group visit to familiarise themselves with the centre and its facilities and prepare risk assessments if necessary. A familiarisation visit for two adult leaders can be made at no extra charge. We will try to answer any questions you have on the day. However, we would ask that if you have any specific questions please contact us by phone or email prior to your visit to enable us to obtain the information you require.
- Children should be supervised at all times while at the centre. Close supervision of children is particularly advised during contact with animals and when using play equipment.
- Children and adults should wear appropriate clothing, including sturdy outdoor shoes (not sandals) or wellington boots, hats, sun protection and have with them wet weather clothing. Check that cuts, grazes etc on children's hands are covered with a waterproof dressing.
- Plan your day. We open from 10.30 am; please try not to arrive before this time. Allow time for hand washing after contact with animals, before eating or drinking and before leaving at the end of the day. Shoes should also be cleaned at the end of the day. The main hand washing facilities and the 'Welly Wash' can be found opposite the stables/poultry barn.
- You may find the following list of websites useful for further information and resources:

www.rarebreeds.org.uk – Our website!

www.face-online.org.uk/ - Farming and Countryside Education, bringing the countryside into the heart of the classroom. 'The Farm – a Living Classroom': downloadable resources to help nursery and primary teachers make the most of a farm visit. Also provides very good health and safety guidance for group leaders preparing to visit farms.

www.countrysidefoundation.org.uk - Provide balanced teaching materials for schools that inform and encourage debate about the countryside, and also provide training for teachers about how to use the countryside in their teaching.

www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/ais23.pdf - A link to Health & Safety Executive website with Agriculture Information Sheet 'Avoiding ill health at open farms – Advice to farmers (with teacher's' supplement)'. Includes a useful guide for Teachers and Children's Group Leaders.

www.friendlyfarmclub.com/ - A fun website for children with quizzes games and fascinating facts. Also has links to other useful websites.

www.ukagriculture.com – General agriculture information.

www.funs.co.uk/facts/a.htm - Fascinating, weird and useless animal facts that kids will love!