



School & Organised Group Risk Assessment 2026

Public Liability: £10 million (Brown & Brown Insurance Company – Farmsure | Policy No. FC001537)

Local Enforcement Authority: Dorset County Council – Purbeck

Maintenance & Checks: By Management and Directors

Food Safety & Hygiene: Operated in accordance with Food Safety legislation

Attraction Employees: All wear uniforms and name badges for identification

Animal Areas operated within NFAN & KIWA Assurance Alignment Statement 2026

1. Industry Code Compliance

Farmer Palmers Farm Park operates in accordance with NFAN (National Farm Attractions Network) Industry Code of Practice and associated guidance.

Animal management, visitor interaction procedures and hygiene controls are aligned with:

- HSE AIS23 – Preventing or Controlling Ill Health from Animal Contact at Visitor Attractions.
- COSHH Regulations 2002 (biological hazards).
- Documented Zoonoses Risk Assessment.
- Visitor Safety Plan and Handwashing Protocols.

2. KIWA & Assurance Standards

Operational procedures align with KIWA assurance expectations, including:

- Animal welfare monitoring and inspection routines.
- Fencing integrity checks and livestock containment procedures.
- Documented maintenance schedules.
- Daily site inspection procedures.
- Recorded accident reporting and RIDDOR compliance.

3. Governance & Oversight

All risk assessments are indexed within **Citation Atlas** and reviewed annually.

Responsible Person: The Farm Park General Manager is responsible for operations, with oversight from the Directors.

Dynamic risk assessment is undertaken daily, with woodland closure logs, animal area checks and weather-based operational decisions documented.

Emergency Telephone: 999
Park

Nearest Hospital: Poole Hospital

Site Access for Emergency Services: Via Main Car

Document Date: 22.01.2026

review Date: 22.01.2027

Review Cycle: Annual (or following operational change)

Potential Hazard / Activity Person at Risk	Hazards & Risks Identified	Risk Rating (Likelihood & Severity)	Current Control Measures (PPE – personal protective equipment)	Further Controls Required	Residual Risk Rating
Slips, Trips	<p>Persons at Risk Children, teachers, staff and parent/guardian / carer</p> <p>Trips</p> <p>Aggressive Behaviour</p> <p>Cash Handling</p> <p>Standing</p> <p>Computer Operation</p> <p>Temp Changes</p> <p>Lifting</p> <p>Fall from the picture wall ledge</p>	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Staff make regular checks on housekeeping ▪ Suitable access routes provided around the farm ▪ Spillages cleared up, spill kits in place ▪ Maintenance of floor surfaces, keep potholes etc. down – particularly in pedestrian areas ▪ Floors kept tidy, clean, and dry ▪ Avoid trailing cables ▪ Bins to keep the site tidy ▪ Litter picking undertaken ▪ Changes in level highlighted with yellow paint etc. where significant risk of trips ▪ Continue to patch and repair roadways and pedestrian walkways to reduce slip and trip hazards ▪ Good lighting internally and externally ▪ Salt or grit in icy conditions in the main pedestrian walkways ▪ The farm staff regularly inspect the site to identify hazards and risks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sensible nonslip footwear advised ▪ All visitors are advised to take care while on the premises ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is always provided ▪ An invitation for the group leader to visit the premises free of charge is permitted, enabling teachers/group leaders to carry out their own risk assessments and check suitability, etc. ▪ All visiting groups must have adequate numbers of adults to supervise children, including extra provisions for special needs groups. Schools & similar are expected to follow the levels of supervision recommended in the current guidelines 	Low

No	Potential Hazard / Activity Person at Risk	Hazards & Risks Identified	Risk Rating (Likelihood & Severity)	Current Control Measures (PPE – personal protective equipment)	Further Controls Required	Residual Risk Rating
	Livestock	<p>Persons at Risk Children, teachers, staff and parent/guardian / carer</p> <p>Risk of injury from: Crushing, bites, pecks, and gores</p> <p>Risk of ill health from: Zoonoses from touching livestock or contaminated surfaces</p>	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Full zoonoses control in place – including risk assessment, COSHH assessment, and visitor safety plan. Compliance with the Code of Practice for visitor attractions ▪ Double fencing in non-contact areas to prevent direct or indirect contact with livestock ▪ In dedicated contact areas, there are hand-washing facilities and signage displayed ▪ Regular checks on fencing ▪ Only domestic breeds on the farm (no zoo licence required) ▪ The farm staff regularly inspect the site to identify hazards and risks. ▪ An invitation for the group leader to visit the premises free of charge is permitted, enabling teachers/group leaders to carry out their own risk assessments and check suitability, etc. ▪ Paths, gates, fencing, etc., are regularly cleaned and disinfected to reduce the risk of infection from zoonotic diseases and kept free from livestock faeces and urine. The farm is kept as clean as practicable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leader must take responsibility to ensure children and adults wash hands when leaving animal contact areas ▪ Group leaders to ensure there is no eating, drinking, chewing gum / sweets in animal contact areas ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is always provided. To be aware the risk to vulnerable groups such as women of child-bearing age who are or may be pregnant, or those with an existing health condition is increased. Children are also of particular risk (under 7's in particular) and when in large groups adequate number of responsible adults must be provided to properly supervise ▪ Make sure group supervisors are aware of the risk from children placing their fingers in their mouth and petting or kissing the animals. Stress they must not eat or chew (including sweets) outside the food only areas and never eat food which has fallen to the ground, or taste animal foods; also, not suck fingers or put hands, pens, pencils or crayons etc in mouths. 	Low

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Any “activities” arranged are always supervised by trained staff and conducted in accordance with standard rules and procedures ▪ Manure and compost heaps in a secure staff only yard away from public contact ▪ Newborn lambs / pregnant ewes are a risk to pregnant women, and clear signs are displayed to avoid contact. Older lambs used for contact. Newborn lambs and mothers are double fenced from direct contact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Group Leader should ensure cuts or abrasions on exposed skin should be covered with plasters to minimise the risk of entry by biological agents. 	
Moving Vehicles and farm equipment	<p>Persons at Risk</p> <p>Children, teachers, staff and parent/guardian / carer</p> <p>Risk of death or serious injury from: Being struck by moving vehicles Falling from tractor trailer ride Car park</p>		Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Access is wide enough for visiting vehicles, and ample parking is provided for cars and coaches ▪ Parking areas in the main car park are marked out, with overflow parking. There is a large pedestrian crossing from the overflow car park to the main entrance. ▪ Traffic management signs were displayed, including 10mph sign on the access road ▪ Risk assessments in place – limited use of farm vehicles during opening hours, driven at slow speeds, with flashing beacons and escorted where necessary ▪ All staff driving farm vehicles are trained 	<p>Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is always provided and especially in the car park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ On arrival, the Group Leader should inform the farm of arrival PRIOR to the group disembarking from the vehicle. This is to ensure arrangements for the visit can be made and that children are not in the car park area waiting, as there may be moving vehicles. ▪ All schools and organised groups should undertake their own risk assessment for the visit 	Low

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tractor-trailer route is in a non-public area and safety rules are documented and followed ▪ Safe queuing area for tractor trailer rides ▪ Tractor trailer ride may not be operating in bad weather if there is a safety risk ▪ Farm vehicles are maintained safely, and daily checks recorded. Farm machinery and equipment kept away from public access 		
	Falls from height	<p>Persons at Risk Children, teachers, staff and parent/guardian / carer</p> <p>Risk of death or serious injury from falling from height</p>	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All play equipment has relevant guard rails, safety features etc. in compliance with relevant standards for play equipment ▪ Play equipment inspected and maintained ▪ Sky trail and climbing wall have specific safety precautions, supervision by trained staff and fall arrest equipment ▪ Emergency and rescue procedures in place ▪ Impact protection under fixed outdoor play equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is always provided ▪ Rules of play to be followed 	Low
	Play Equipment	<p>Persons at Risk Children, teachers, staff and parent/guardian / carer</p>	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rules of play signs displayed. Supervision of higher risk attractions by trained staff e.g., sky trail, Go-Karts, climbing wall and adequate information given to users. These may be closed at certain times of the day/year and when weather compromises safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is always provided ▪ Rules of play to be followed 	Low

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		Risk of death or serious injury from: Falling from or onto equipment Slipping or tripping Defective equipment Boisterous play		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Annual inspection by Rospa or a similar inspection body for all play equipment ▪ Staff undertake daily, weekly and monthly formal checks on all play equipment ▪ Risk assessments in place. Impact protection provided. Compliance with relevant standards and guidance for all play equipment ▪ Defective equipment would be taken out of use immediately and access would be prevented ▪ All play areas are 		
	Fire	<p>Persons at Risk Children, teachers, staff and parent/guardian / carer</p> <p>Risk of death or serious injury from: Smoke inhalation Burns. Building collapse Explosion</p> <p>Risk of ill health from: Burns, smoke inhalation</p>	Medium	<p>Full fire risk assessment in place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintained fire precautions across the site (fire extinguishers, fire alarms, smoke detection, emergency lighting) ▪ Documented Emergency Procedure Fire support contract ▪ Trained Staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is always provided ▪ Instruction from Farm Staff to be followed 	Low
	Falling Objects	<p>Persons at Risk Children, teachers, staff and parent/guardian / carer</p>	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The farm staff regularly inspect the site to identify hazards and risks ▪ Heavy objects secured where necessary ▪ Bale stacks etc. in staff-only areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is always provided 	Low

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		Risk of death or serious injury from: Crushing, striking head or body		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Staff-only areas are kept as secure as possible 		
	Adverse weather	<p>Persons at Risk Children, teachers, staff and parent/guardian / carer</p> <p>Risks Identified Risk of death or serious injury from: Lighting Slips. Lightning Risk of ill health from: Sunburn, Hypothermia, Hyperthermia, Sunstroke, dehydration</p>	Medium	<p>Certain attractions and play equipment are weather-dependent and will be closed if deemed to be unsafe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Buildings to provide shelter ▪ Buildings are lit and heated ▪ Health and safety guidance is published on the website, covering clothing, sun, etc. 	<p>Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is always provided</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Correct clothing for expected weather conditions to be worn ▪ Sensible nonslip footwear advised ▪ Ensure adequate hydration is maintained ▪ Sun block advised for strong sunlight 	Low
	Insect bites / stings	<p>Persons at Risk Children, teachers, staff and parent/guardian / carer</p> <p>Risks Identified Risk of death or serious injury from: Anaphylaxis Risk of ill health from:</p>	Medium	<p>First aiders and first aid equipment on site with a first aid room.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wasp traps installed around the farm as needed 	<p>Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is always provided</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Call a first aider while at the farm if assistance is needed 	Low
	Plants, Trees, Weed	<p>Persons at Risk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visiting children (particularly under 11 years) • Teachers and supervising adults • Members of the public 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tree safety management plan in place around the farm park to manage dead or diseased trees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is always provided ▪ Call a first aider while at the farm if assistance is needed 	Low

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		<p>Risks Identified</p> <p>Risk of death or serious injury from: Falling branches/trees, Climbing, falling. Risk of ill health from: Allergic reaction, stings from nettles, poisonous plants, irritation to skin, ingestion of berries causing ill health, etc.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Vegetation around the farm is managed to remove poisonous plants such as giant hogweed and to manage stinging nettles, brambles etc. in public areas ▪ Mowing and maintenance of vegetation/trees, removal of irritant plants/weeds where required & practicable 	Ensure no hogweed in public areas	
	Ponds, Watercourses	<p>Persons at Risk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visiting children (particularly under 11 years) • Teachers and supervising adults • Members of the public <p>Risks Identified</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drowning • Slips or falls into water • Seasonal flooding • Unstable or boggy ground 	High	<p>Duck pond is completely fenced</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodland access is not part of structured educational programming. • Visiting group leaders retain direct supervisory responsibility at all times. • Mesh gate installed with an automatic closure mechanism. • The gate is physically locked when the woodland is deemed unsuitable. • Daily documented inspection of the woodland area prior to opening. • Closure implemented during high river levels, flooding or high winds. • Deep Water and Bog Risk warning signage displayed. • Safety throw ring installed within woodland perimeter. • Daily operational briefing to staff regarding woodland status. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional supervision signage reinforcing adult responsibility. • Woodland closure recorded in Woodland Closure Log (Ref: FP-WCL-2026). • Annual formal review of water risk assessment. 	Medium

No	Potential Hazard / Activity Person at Risk	Hazards & Risks Identified	Risk Rating (Likelihood & Severity)	Current Control Measures (PPE – personal protective equipment)	Further Controls Required	Residual Risk Rating
	Food and Drink	<p>Persons at Risk Children, teachers, staff and parent/guardian / carer</p> <p>Risks Identified Risk of death or serious injury from: Burns, scalds from hot food Slips or trips on debris or liquids dropped on the floor, Risk of ill health from: Food poisoning (food pathogens), food allergy or intolerance, Zoonoses (cross contamination from livestock or contaminated surfaces)</p>	<p>Medium</p> <p>High</p>	<p>No eating or drinking is permitted in animal contact areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eating and drinking should only be in dedicated areas Hand washing is required before eating and drinking, and always on leaving animal contact areas Dropped food and drink should be cleared up and/or reported to a member of staff Farmer Palmers Farm Park has comprehensive food hygiene controls in place (staff training, cleaning procedures, and HACCP food safety management systems) Food allergen information is available for on-site food and drink products, and staff are allergen-trained in food areas Cross-contamination controls are in place; one weaker point is relying on the public to maintain good hand hygiene on site 	<p>Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is always provided, including during refreshments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hand washing after leaving animal contact areas must be supervised To ensure children/visitors do not have food, including sweets or drinks in animal contact areas Group leaders must ensure the rules of the park are followed Dropped food and drink should be cleared up and/or reported to a member of staff Groups should be aware of any special dietary requirements of their group and to provide information to Farmer Palmers Farm Park, where we are providing the catering and in particular, severe food allergies 	<p>Low</p> <p>Medium</p>
	Fencing	<p>Persons at Risk Children, teachers, staff and parent/guardian / carer</p> <p>Risks Identified Death or serious injury from:</p>		<p>Fencing is regularly checked and maintained</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fencing is periodically disinfected in animal areas Double fencing in non-contact areas 	<p>Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is always provided</p>	<p>Low</p>

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		Livestock escape, splinters, damaged fencing causing injury, and electric shock from electric fencing. Risk of ill health from: Zoonoses from contaminated surfaces, Tetanus		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Electric shock signs are displayed on electric fencing, but this should not be accessible to the public in any case ▪ Livestock escape procedures in place 		
	Accident, Emergency or sudden illness	<p>Persons at Risk Children, teachers, staff and parent/guardian / carer</p> <p>Risks Identified Serious injury, unconsciousness, stress,</p>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trained first aiders on the farm ▪ First Aid Room available ▪ Documented Emergency Procedures ▪ Trained First Aiders on site ▪ Fire Risk Assessment in place ▪ Radios and telephones to alert emergency services quickly when necessary ▪ Good access for emergency services around the site ▪ Health and safety guidance is published on the website 	<p>Group leaders are responsible for ensuring adequate supervision is always provided</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Visiting Groups would be expected to follow directions given by the Farm staff in the event of an emergency 	Low