

RA049 — Orchard Harvest Day (9 September)

Naylor's Ark Soul Sanctuary · Risk assessment (Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999)

Activity: Autumn term week 2: apple picking and sorting in the orchard, weighing the harvest, then washing, chopping and pressing apples into fresh juice

Programme: Home Education Hub — Home Ed at the Ark, term-time Wednesdays 11am–2pm

Assessment date: 20/08/2026 · Assessor: Liberty Naylor · Review: annually, after any incident and before each new term

Site: Naylor's Ark Soul Sanctuary · CPH 46/327/7111 · Vet: 608 Equine & Farm Veterinary Surgeons · Read with HSP-01, SSOW-01, RA031 biosecurity and the Home Ed session safety and hygiene checklist

Hazard	Who may be harmed	Control measures in place	Residual risk
Falling fruit, low branches and eye injury in the orchard	Learners, parents	No climbing of trees and no shaking of branches; picking from the ground and at arm's reach only; long-handled pickers used by adults; head-height branches flagged; hard-hat area not required as no work above head height is permitted.	Medium
Windfall fruit — wasps, mould, rot and animal droppings	Learners	Gloves worn for all ground collection; visibly rotten, mouldy or nibbled fruit goes straight to the animal-feed or compost bucket, never the juice bucket; wasp activity checked before the session and hotspots avoided; sting allergies known in advance.	Medium
Knives and choppers during fruit preparation	Learners, parents	Chopping done seated at a table with one adult per two learners; age-appropriate serrated safety knives for under-11s; cut-resistant gloves available; a clear arm's length between learners; knives counted out and back and never carried between tables.	High before controls / Medium after
Apple press and scatter — crush and pinch injuries	Learners, parents	The press is operated by an adult with learners' hands clear and visible on the table; only one learner at the handle at a time with a team member alongside; scatter operated by a team member only; press checked for splinters and loose parts before use.	Medium
Food hygiene and contamination of juice	Learners, parents	Hands washed and aprons on before any food handling; all fruit washed in clean water; boards, buckets, press and bottles cleaned and sanitised before and after; no animal contact between hand-washing and food handling; juice is unpasteurised so it is drunk the same day or chilled and taken home immediately with a written 'drink today, keep refrigerated' note.	Medium
Allergies and dietary needs at tasting	Learners, parents	Allergies checked against the registration record before any tasting; apple-only ingredients with nothing added; families with concerns opt out of tasting and still take part in pressing; no shared cups.	Medium
Slips on juice, water and fallen fruit underfoot	All present	Spills mopped immediately; the pressing area matted; fallen fruit cleared from walkways; the pressing station set up on level ground away from the picking route.	Low
Animal contact — bites, knocks, treads, startling	Learners, parents, staff	Only animals cleared for public contact on the roster; a member of the team present throughout; approach from the side, calm voices, no running or chasing; no head handling where the roster says so; no entry to paddocks with unsettled animals; RA015 general visit controls apply.	Medium
Zoonoses and infection (E. coli O157, cryptosporidium, ringworm)	Learners, parents, staff	Hand-washing with soap and hot water after animal contact and before any food or drink; no eating, drinking, thumb-sucking or phone use in animal areas; cuts and grazes covered; supervised wash station signed and stocked; RA031 biosecurity and zoonoses controls apply; anyone unwell asked to rebook.	Medium

Hazard	Who may be harmed	Control measures in place	Residual risk
Supervision and safeguarding of children	Learners	Parents and carers remain responsible for their own children and stay with them at all times; learners never left alone with an animal or a volunteer; ratio confirmed at booking; DBS-checked lead on site; concerns reported to the sanctuary lead the same day and to the local authority safeguarding team within 24 hours.	Low
Slips, trips, uneven ground and weather	All present	Route checked and swept before the session; suitable footwear and outdoor clothing stated at booking; wet or muddy sections coned or avoided; walkways kept clear of hoses, buckets and tools; shaded and sheltered space available; RA037 adverse weather controls apply; session shortened or postponed in high wind, ice or heat.	Low
Allergies, medical needs and mobility	Learners, parents	Allergies, medical needs and mobility captured on the family registration and reviewed before each session; seated and at-distance options always offered; families keep their own medication (inhalers, antihistamines, auto-injectors) with them; first aider on site with a stocked kit; MNA-01 medical needs assessment applies.	Low
Emergency, fire or animal escape during a session	All present	Site safety briefing and sign-in at the gate before every session; assembly point, fire point, first aid kit and toilets shown at the start; gates closed behind every person; register held by the lead; incident, near miss or animal concern reported and logged in the app the same day.	Low