

RA050 — From Apple to Animal (16 September)

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

Activity: Autumn term week 3: food waste, composting, apple pulp, safe fruit for different species, taste-testing varieties and charting results

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
Feeding the wrong fruit or quantity to an animal	Animals, learners	A written safe-feed list is issued at the start and every portion is checked by a team member before it is given; no ponies fed at all; nothing brought from home is fed; whole apples cut for equines and pigs elsewhere on site; feeding through a barrier or into a trough, never hand to mouth.	Medium
Compost heap — sharps, glass, mould spores, rodents and Weil's disease	Learners, parents	Gloves for all compost handling; heap turned by an adult; learners do not dig into the heap or handle rodent-fouled material; no hand-to-face contact; thorough hand-washing; any cut covered before starting and re-dressed after.	Medium
Taste-testing apple varieties	Learners	Allergies and dietary needs checked first; fruit washed and cut by an adult with clean equipment on a clean board; individual portions, no sharing or double-dipping; no choking hazards for under-5s (thin slices only, seated and supervised).	Medium
Pulp and spoiled fruit — fermentation and mould	Learners, animals	Fresh pulp only fed the same day; fermenting or mouldy pulp composted, never fed; buckets labelled 'feed' and 'compost' and kept separate; pulp store kept covered and away from the teaching area.	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
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

Hazard	Who may be harmed	Control measures in place	Residual risk
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