

RA019 — College student work placement in animal care

Naylor's Ark Soul Sanctuary · Risk assessment

Sanctuary CPH: 46/327/7111

Veterinary practice: 608 Equine & Farm Veterinary Surgeons · 01926 640 385

Partner / group: Solihull College & University Centre, Moreton Morrell College

Assessment date: 2026-08-10

Review date: 2027-08-10

Assessor: Liberty Naylor (Sanctuary Manager)

Activity assessed

Supervised animal husbandry placement including feeding, mucking out, grooming, health checks and site tasks.

Hazard	Who may be harmed	Control measures in place	Residual risk
Inexperienced student performing husbandry tasks	Students, animals	Induction, safety quiz and SSOW-01 completed before any task. Competence signed off task by task on record TR-01. Direct supervision until assessed competent; no lone working at any stage.	Low
Manual handling of feed, bedding, water and equipment	Students	Manual handling brief on day one. Maximum 20 kg individual lift; team lift or barrow above this. Wheelbarrows and sack trolleys provided.	Low
Hand tools, power washer and yard equipment	Students	Tools issued only after demonstration. No student use of machinery, chainsaws, ATVs or tractors. Power washer used with eye protection and gloves by supervised students aged 18+ only.	Low
Exposure to chemicals, disinfectants and veterinary medicines	Students	COSHH assessments available on site. Students do not administer veterinary medicines. Disinfectant decanting supervised, gloves and eye protection worn.	Low
Placement provider duties and under-18 students	Students, sanctuary	College placement agreement, emergency contacts and any medical needs (MNA-01) held on file before start. Additional controls and closer supervision applied for students under 18.	Low
Animal-related injury (bite, kick, knock, trample)	Visitors, volunteers, staff	Only pre-selected, temperament-assessed animals used for contact. Supervised at all times, minimum 1 trained handler per 8 participants. No entry to enclosures without a handler. Animals unsuitable for contact segregated and signed.	Low
Zoonotic infection (E. coli O157, cryptosporidium, salmonella)	All participants, especially under-5s, pregnant and immunosuppressed people	Hand-wash stations with hot water, soap and paper towels at every animal area. Supervised hand washing after contact and before eating. No eating, drinking or hand-to-mouth in animal areas. Signage per PHE/HSE AIS23.	Low
Slips, trips and falls on uneven, wet or muddy ground	All participants	Route walked and checked before arrival. Sturdy footwear required. Wet or churned areas closed off. Spillages and hazards cleared before the group moves through.	Low
Vehicles and machinery on site	All participants	No tractor or machinery movement while groups are on site unless banksman-controlled. Pedestrian routes marked; parking segregated from animal areas.	Low
Fire or emergency evacuation	All participants	Fire evacuation procedure FEP-01 briefed on arrival. Assembly point identified. Head-count register kept by group leader. Emergency vet and 999 contact details displayed.	Low

Hazard	Who may be harmed	Control measures in place	Residual risk
Adverse weather (heat, cold, wind, storms)	All participants	Weather checked morning of visit. Shaded and sheltered areas available; drinking water provided. Visit postponed for high wind, storms or extreme heat.	Low

Additional arrangements

- Emergency arrangements: first aider on site during all visits; first aid kit at the yard office; nearest A&E University Hospital Coventry & Warwickshire; site address and what3words displayed at the assembly point.
- Group leaders retain duty of care for their own members and must supply ratios, medical and consent information before the visit.
- All visitors complete the visitor waiver and assumption of risk before activities. Volunteers must have completed induction, the safety quiz and SSOW-01.
- This assessment is read alongside HSP-01 Health and Safety Policy, FEP-01 Fire Evacuation Procedure, RA015 General visit and feeding, and MAP-01 Site map.
- Review: annually, after any incident or near miss, or when the activity, animals, group or site changes.

Signed (assessor): _____

Date: _____

Group leader briefed (signature): _____