

Risk Assessment — Lamb Grooming Activity

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Document owner	Naylor's Ark Soul Sanctuary
Holding CPH	46/327/7111
Status	Template — complete, approve and issue before use
Review	Annually and after any incident or material change

Activity and scope

Supervised grooming of rescued sheep/lambs using brushes only. This is grooming, not lambing or veterinary treatment.

People at risk

Visitors, children, volunteers, staff and others nearby. Animals are also protected from distress or inappropriate contact.

Risk assessment

Hazard / who may be harmed	Initial risk	Controls required	Residual risk
Kicks, butting, crushing or sudden movement — participant/handler	High	Select calm animals; competent handler present; small groups; open escape route; no kneeling behind animal; stop if animal is distressed.	Low
Bites, scratches, horns or entanglement	Medium	Brief participants; approach from side; no face-to-face contact; keep loose clothing/hair secured; horned or unsuitable animals excluded.	Low
Zoonoses and contaminated fleece	Medium	Cover cuts; gloves where needed; no hand-to-mouth contact; wash hands with soap and water; no food/drink in activity area.	Low
Slips, trips, uneven ground or gates	Medium	Pre-use area inspection; remove tools/hoses; suitable closed footwear; keep gates secured; suspend in poor weather.	Low
Allergy, asthma, pregnancy or reduced immunity	Medium	Medical-needs check before activity; avoid exposure where advised; provide alternative non-contact activity.	Low
Animal stress or welfare compromise	Medium	Animal choice respected; short sessions; sanctuary lead stops immediately for avoidance, agitation, lameness or illness.	Low
Brush injury/cross infection	Medium	Use smooth, maintained brushes; one controlled stroke direction; disinfect equipment between groups; do not groom wounds.	Low

Operating conditions

- Sanctuary lead gives a briefing and remains present throughout.
- Minimum ratio and age restrictions are set by the visit lead for the group.
- No visitor enters an enclosure or restrains an animal unless specifically trained and authorised.
- Record incidents, near misses and animal welfare concerns immediately.

Authorisation and review

Assessor	Approved by	Assessment date	Review date

Risk scale: Low — controlled through routine measures; Medium — supervision and specified controls required; High — activity must not proceed until risk is reduced.