



EDUCATIONAL VISITS ZOONOSIS SAFETY GUIDELINES

Keeping You Safe Around Animals – Our Zoonoses Safety Guide

At Noah's Ark Zoo Farm, the safety and wellbeing of our visitors, staff, and animals is our top priority. While spending time with animals is an exciting and educational experience, it's important to know that animals can naturally carry germs that might make people unwell. These are called **zoonotic diseases**—illnesses that can pass from animals to humans.

We want all our visitors, especially children and schools, to enjoy their visit safely. Here's how we keep everyone safe, and what you can do to help.

What Are We Protecting Against?

Some of the most common germs that can be passed from animals to people including but not limited to:

- E. coli (a bacteria that can cause tummy upsets)
- Cryptosporidium (a parasite that can cause diarrhoea)
- Salmonella (a bacteria that affects the digestive system)

While cases are rare, we take this seriously and have strong procedures in place.

What We're Doing to Keep You Safe

Clean and Healthy Animals

- Our animals are regularly checked by experienced keepers and vets.
- New animals are quarantined and tested before joining the rest of the zoo.

Handwashing Stations

- We have clearly marked handwashing stations at **all animal contact areas** and toilet blocks.
- These are stocked with soap, warm water, and clear instructions on how to wash hands properly.

Limited Contact



- Visitors can only touch animals in **three marked areas**: the Animal Village, the Farm Barns, and the Moat House paddocks.
- If an animal is ever unwell, it will be moved away from visitor areas immediately.

Clear Information

- Our staff are trained to explain safety measures and will remind schools during workshops to wash hands after touching animals.
- Signs around the zoo highlight where and why to wash your hands, and how to do it properly.

Clean Spaces

- We keep all animal areas clean and manage waste carefully to avoid any contamination.
- Pest control measures are in place to keep the site safe and hygienic.

Staff Training

- All team members are trained in hygiene and safety procedures.
- We work closely with vets to ensure best practice.

What You Can Do to Help

Wash your hands thoroughly

After touching animals, animal artefacts or their environments – always wash your hands with soap and water (not hand sanitiser).

Supervise children

Help them to wash hands properly and avoid putting fingers in mouths after touching animals.

Eat in designated areas only

Ensure that before eating and drinking you and any children/vulnerable people wash their hands thoroughly following feedback. Avoid eating or drinking while in animal contact areas. Picnic areas are located around the site and Staff are on hand to direct you if required.

Follow signs and staff guidance

They're here to help keep you safe!



For further information please contact the Education Team via email:

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