



Salvation Army
Hadleigh Farm
Rare Breed Centre



Hadleigh Farm Estate External Group Visit Information Pack



Welcome to Hadleigh Farm Rare Breeds Centre

Thank you for your interest in hosting a visit from Hadleigh Farm Estate. We are a friendly farm with a small engaging team of dedicated staff. We hope that the experience will give your group inspiration and information about farming. A visit from us can teach your group about a range of topics from how we care for our animals to the history of The Salvation Army Hadleigh Farm.

William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army, bought the land that now makes Hadleigh Farm Estate in 1890. Since then the land has been used as a Farm Colony to help men out of unemployment. The site has seen many changes over the years. Since 1950 it has been managed as a commercial farm. Alongside this we have our Rare Breed Centre. In 2016 the Rare Breeds Centre was granted Rare Breed Survival Trust Approved Farm Park status for the work we do to conserve Rare Breed livestock and educate others about them. We also have our Training Centre which teaches adults with learning difficulties and disabilities, life skills and practical skills to help them reach person-centred goals. There is also a Tearoom on site. At the other end of the site is the Olympic mountain bike course and the HUB, this is only a 20 minute walk away. They have a cafe, balance bike track, varying level ability bike tracks, sensory room and reading room facilities. Hadleigh Castle is also very close by.

We will tailor our visit to your needs and have a range of talk options available.

For uniformed youth groups we can tailor your visit to any badge or challenge syllabus that you are working towards. We will tailor your visit to your group and your needs. We are able to accommodate external groups throughout the year. This includes during weekdays and weekends, including late afternoon/early evening sessions to fit with group meeting times, dependent on staff availability.

This pack provides support and practical ways of making a group visit to Hadleigh Farm an exciting, interactive and memorable experience where children can encounter the countryside first-hand.

Facilities we will require

In order for us to run an external group visit we will require some things from you;

- A car parking space close to your location.
- A table or a raised area that we can place animal cages on to.
- Hand washing facilities.
- Access to running water. If this is not available please let us know as we may be able to make arrangements.
- Access to hot water and electricity for heat mats for our animals.

Contact Information

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Booking a Visit

Once you have read this pack please contact us, ideally by email in the first instance to book a visit and then complete the booking form and return it to the address or email below. This allows us to first confirm talk topics and dates with you.

Prices start from £30 per booking. The final booking price will depend on location of the visit and how long we are with you for.

We understand that circumstances can occur whereby you may need to change the date of the visit at short notice. If this is the case please let us know as soon as possible so we can check availability and make the necessary arrangements for you.

Payment

We accept payment on the day of the visit by cash or cheque, made payable to 'The Salvation Army Hadleigh Farm.' Alternatively we can organise payment by invoice directly to your group.

Invoices will be given to you on the day or sent out to you after the visit. When we send out the invoice we will also include a questionnaire about your day, we would be most grateful if you could fill this in and return to us so that we can continue to improve our group visits here at Hadleigh Farm Rare Breeds Centre.

- If plans change and you no longer want to proceed with a visit from us please let us know at least 48 hours in advance.
- If we are delayed on the day we will let you know at our earliest convenience.

A typical Visit

The visit will include a talk of your choice that can be tailored to any age range and ability, with prior arrangement. The talk will be presented by a competent and friendly member of our by our CEVAS (Countryside Educational Visits Accreditation Scheme) trained small dedicated staff team. The talk could also include an interactive meet and greet session with some of our small animals.

Talk topics that can be covered include;

- Small animal handling session
- Animal movement
- Animal lifecycles
- The history of the Salvation Army Hadleigh Farm site
- What is a Rare Breed and what the Rare Breed Centres purpose is
- Harvest time
- Farming and what our animals and site produces.

However if you had a specific topic in mind that you would like to learn about please let our staff know and they may be able to create a talk tailored to suit your needs.

Before your visit

- Read and understand the advice given by Farming and Countryside Education (FACE) in the Code of Practise, please see Health and Safety, and discuss visit arrangements with the farm staff.
- Discuss with the adult supervisors, who may be parents, etc. their role during our visit. They must understand the need to make sure that the group participants wash, or are helped to wash, their hands thoroughly after contacting animals, and follow the other rules suggested.
- Discuss with participants the rules for the visit. Please ensure your participants are aware that they must wash their hands and after touching the animals and before they eat.
- Check that cuts, grazes, etc. on hands are covered with a waterproof dressing.
- Check for any allergies / fears / phobias towards animals within your group
- Read and understand our risk assessment.

If a member of your group shows signs of illness (e.g. sickness or diarrhea) after a visit, advise them or their parent/guardian to visit the doctor and explain that they have had recent contact with animals. Please contact us to inform us of any ill health.

Health and Safety

We comply with Health and Safety Regulations; however, it is important that all children and supervising adults are aware of the correct Health and Safety guidelines.

The risk of infection is very small, but disease caused by an infection could be serious. By following simple guidelines, similar to everyday basic hygiene recommendations, the risk can be easily minimised.

Farming and Countryside Education (FACE) have produced guidelines, Preventing or controlling ill health from animal contact at visitor attractions - Industry Code of Practice. The supplement to this code of practice advises teachers and others who organise farm visits on controlling the risk of infection from animals which the children may have contact with during their visit. This is available to download from www.face-online.org.uk/CodeofPractice.

All animals naturally carry a range of micro-organisms, some of which can be transmitted to humans, causing ill health. Some, such as the bacterium *Escherichia coli O157* (*E. coli O157*), cause infections which can potentially cause disease, which may be particularly acute in young children.

While the hazard from infection resulting from a farm visit is real, the risk can be readily controlled by following sensible steps which will help make your visit safe, healthy and enjoyable.

To ensure a safe visit please ensure the following;

- **Children must be supervised at all times, especially when washing hands after handling and feeding the animals and before eating and drinking.**
- **Please ensure NO alcohol gel is used as this does not kill animal germs.**
- **Do not kiss the animals.**
- **Eat only food for human consumption, never the animal feed.**
- **Never eat food that has fallen on the ground.**
- **Do not suck fingers or put hands, pens, pencils, etc. in mouths.**
- **Where practical and possible clean or change footwear before leaving the farm.**
- **Wash hands after changing footwear that has been worn to the farm.**



All of our main farm staff are first aid trained, please report any first aid incidents to a member of our staff, even if your staff team deal with the incident themselves.

All of our staff and volunteers are DBS checked.

We have our own public liability insurance.

Our risk assessment will be available to you when you attend a pre-visit.