



Stay Safe at Maryon Wilson Animal Park

The tours at Maryon Wilson Animal Park take under 2 hours and give the opportunity to feed, stroke and handle animals. It helps children understand and appreciate animals they would not normally come into contact with. Unfortunately, such activities carry a slight risk of children acquiring infections from the animals and the farm environment.

There is evidence that E.coli can be found in deer, sheep, goats, horses and geese, but it is difficult to identify because healthy animals can carry the E.coli organism and do not exhibit signs of disease.

E.coli can cause severe illness in young children. Schools, groups and parents taking children to visit Maryon Wilson Animal Park should take the risk of infection seriously.

However, attention to good hygiene can avoid unnecessary risk of infection. Parks & Open Spaces rangers will lead the tours, but teachers, carers and parents should take full responsibility for children / groups in their care to ensure adequate supervision and to ensure these simple hygiene rules are followed. Children, especially those under 5 should be closely supervised.

Do not place fingers or hands in your mouth, or hug or kiss any animal

Do not eat or drink anything while on the tour

Avoid touching pond water to minimize the risk of contracting Weil's disease

Use the antibacterial hand gel provided when exiting each animal contact area

Wash your hands thoroughly at the end of the tour.

Cuts and abrasions should be covered.

Wear suitable clothing e.g. warm clothing in the winter, sun hat and suncream in the summer or waterproof clothing in case it rains. Some parts of the park can be muddy so it is advisable to wear suitable footwear.

