

# Stepney City Farm FAQs for Schools

## 2023

### **When do you run facilitated school visits?**

We currently run facilitated workshops and guided tours Monday mornings and afternoons, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons and Thursday mornings and afternoons. You can also book a self-led visit. These take place on Wednesday mornings and Fridays.

We offer two slots for school groups: morning (10.30 - 12.00) or afternoon (13.00 - 14.30.) We can sometimes be flexible with these timings so please do ask when booking if you need flexibility to fit in with your usual timetable.

### **How many classes can we bring at a time?**

Each slot is for one class, regardless of whether you are visiting for facilitated or self-led visits. We have a limit of 30 children on site at any time and all visits must be booked in advance.

For nursery classes we can have 15 children per tour or workshop.

### **Can we eat our lunch at the Farm?**

You can book our Classroom or outdoor deck to eat your lunch from 12.00-12.30 following a morning booking, and 12.30-1 before an afternoon booking. Please let us know your lunch arrangements when booking.

### **Do you have a risk assessment?**

Yes, it is available on the schools page of our website. Please read it before you visit and let us know if you have any questions.

### **Can we visit for a pre-visit to help plan our trip?**

We encourage pre-visits from teachers and other school staff to help plan your visit. Please let us know when you would like to come for a pre-visit. Where possible, the Schools Programme Manager will be available to show you around and answer your questions.

### **Can we feed the animals?**

Groups can feed the animals under the supervision of the Schools Programme Manager during guided tours and some workshops. If you are visiting as a self-led group, you can buy animal feed at £1 from our welcome hut.

### **What animals do you have at the Farm?**

We have goats, sheep, donkeys, chickens, ducks, geese, pigs, guinea pigs, ferrets and rabbits. Some baby animals are born here in the spring and summer months. You can find out more about our animals on our website.

### **What if it's bad weather on the day we are booked to visit?**

Workshops and guided tours usually go ahead come rain or shine. We recommend that children come dressed appropriately for the weather - sun hats and sunscreen and waterbottles in hot weather, waterproofs for when it is wet. Very occasionally we have to cancel sessions due to unforeseen circumstances such as very bad weather. In this unlikely event then we will try and offer you an alternative slot for your visit.

### **We have to cancel our trip. What shall we do?**

Please let us know as soon as possible if you have to cancel your visit. Our schools programme is very popular and this enables us to free up slots for other groups.

### **Is the Farm wheelchair accessible?**

The farm is an inclusive space; most spaces are wheelchair accessible and we are actively working to increase participation for people of all different abilities and needs. We can adapt all workshops if necessary to support all members of your classes to experience the opportunities at the farm. Please let us know when booking if any of your group uses a wheelchair.

### **Can you adapt sessions for SEND pupils?**

Many of the pupils who visit us have SEND or additional needs. Please let us know when booking how best we can support these pupils during their visit and we will adapt the sessions as much as possible.

The Schools Programme Manager will also ask staff at the start of facilitated visits if you have any pupils who might need additional support.

### **How much do you charge for sessions?**

Our schools programme is generously supported by the Garfield Weston Foundation. We have a suggested donation of £40 per session to help support the running of the Farm, but will not exclude schools without a budget. You can bring cash on the day or we can invoice you in advance of your booking.

Self-led visits are free and should be booked in with us.

### **How do we book?**

Please email [rosie@stepneycityfarm.org](mailto:rosie@stepneycityfarm.org) to book and include the session(s) you would like to book, your preferred dates and slots and what year group your classes are. Our Schools Programme Manager will respond to your email to arrange your visit(s).