

Risk Assessment information for all activities by individuals and groups at Elysian

Address:

Elysian Animal Assisted Interventions Ltd
Westland Farm
Lordshill Common,
Shamley Green, Guildford
Surrey
GU5 0TL

Shamley Green Office mobile: 07944 875503
General Elysian mobile: 07944 875155

In the event of an emergency call 999.

What Three Words: landings . dusty . prettiest

Nearest hospital: Surrey County Hospital Egerton Road Guildford GU2 7XX

First Aid kits are provided in the office and in the 1-1/first aid room. First aider bum bags are also located on the yard.

The Site First Aiders are: Ella Yorke, Louise Thorne, Imogen Stewart-Nell, Jo Winter, Jonathan Godfrey, Phil Thomas and Andrew MacDonald

The Site Fire Marshals are: Louise Thorne and Andrew MacDonald

Updated: 21/05/2026

Updated by: Andrew MacDonald (Deputy Head, Operations)

ACTIVITY/LOCATION	HAZARDS	THOSE AT RISK	RISK LEVEL	ACTION - RISK REDUCTION MEASURES	RISK
<p>Contact with animals/Farm environment</p>	<p>Infection and disease from contact with animals</p>	<p>All, especially children and pregnant women</p>	<p>H</p>	<p>Children and adults must wash and dry hands using soap and water and paper towels after contact with animals, before eating and when leaving the farm. Staff/carers must supervise children's handwashing. Open wounds should be covered with a waterproof dressing. Handwashing facilities are available on the farm in the reptile enclosure, outside the medical room and on the yard. This is in addition to handwashes in all toilets. Animal faeces regularly swept off paths and animals kept in enclosures Pregnant women should not come into contact with sheep, goats or cows around the time those animals are due to give birth, For more information about specific risks see: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pregnancy-advice-on-contact-with-animals-that-are-giving-birth</p>	<p>L</p>

				http://www.hse.gov.uk/campaigns/farmsafe/ecoli.htm	
	Injury from biting, kicking, trampling	All	M	<p>Animals kept in fenced paddocks or enclosures and are handled with the support of trained or experienced staff. Children & Young People and all Visitors are alerted if the animals will be out of their areas. Visitors are not permitted to feed animals except on guided sessions, in sessions or tours with staff. Staff to make individuals and groups aware of safe behaviour around the farm. Where a person is dysregulated, staff need to consider the potential impact on the animal and the possible increased risk of unwanted behaviour from the animal, this may include ensuring the animal is contained away from the child or young person.</p> <p>All staff and volunteers are fully inducted and trained in handling animals and horses. All staff and volunteers are asked not to interact with animals or carry out tasks if they have not been trained or are unsure in any way.</p> <p>Protective equipment is worn, dependent on the animal and situation. For example, protective hats and gloves are worn to turn horses in and out of fields. All horses are risk assessed individually.</p>	L
	Allergic reaction to			Staff/carers are responsible for supporting individuals within their	

	animal or bedding	People with asthma and other allergies	L	arranged groups or sessions, and ensuring they are aware of the children and young peoples' completed Health and Safety information as to not expose anyone to allergens or reduce exposure accordingly. Staff need to ensure any visitors or group discuss with staff any known allergies prior to the visit, or on arrival before undertaking any activities. Entry into more enclosed areas such as hay barn and animal enclosures is only with permission and under the instruction of staff and may not be suitable for children with allergies such as asthma.	L
Compost/Manure Heaps	Infections	All	M	Visitors have no contact with manure heaps or compost heaps (except for arranged activities under the direction of staff, who will be able to guide on appropriate safety measures.) Staff and volunteers undergo induction training on the use of and management of muck heaps. Handwashing should always be undertaken after using the muck heap.	L
Access to Farm	Vehicle movements on site and in car park	Children	H	Visitors, children, young people and parents access farm via the walkway and will be met by staff to walk through the pedestrian gate or the staff car park. Staff access the farm through the main gates and park at the right-hand side of the barn. Staff to address any drivers seen to not being considerate and	L

				<p>courteous in the car park. Children and young people are often anxious and to ensure safety we ask that all users of the car park use the car park always exercising caution and consideration.</p> <p>Vehicles will not be moving on site during operational hours. Should there be a need to do so, all staff will be informed via messaging app, and an escort will be provided to walk with the vehicle, ensuring good visibility and a slow speed.</p> <p>Visiting school groups to bring appropriate adult child ratio.</p>	
Walking on the Farm	Injury from slipping, tripping and falling; uneven cobbles and steps, wet ground	All group members	M	<p>Children, young people and adults to wear suitable clothing and footwear. Farm pathways and yard regularly swept of debris. Due to the uneven nature of some of the ground surfaces, children should not run at the farm and should be supervised by staff/carers. Children are not to be unsupervised, and when young people, as part of their independence pathway are allowed to walk around farm areas unescorted, this is done with staff's overall supervision (i.e. planned, with full awareness of location and timings, as well as a risk assessment).</p> <p>Staff to ensure all CYP and visitors are always reminded of the irregular surfaces and the need for appropriate footwear and clothing.</p>	L
Farm Buildings/	Workshops, feed room,	All	H	All buildings are kept locked when not used in sessions and supervised	L

Rooms	cabin room, hay barns – injury from tools, or dangerous substances			by the staff running the session. Buildings to be tidied and all items to be cleared away after each use. Tools to be kept in locked away tools' storage, and all substances that may pose a risk such as chemicals to be kept in the COSHH cupboard. Metal fencing closed and covering hazardous machinery 'No entry' sign displayed and doors locked for every storage area on the farm.	
	Kitchen – scalding from hot water	All	M	Individuals only to enter the kitchen with permission and young people in session to enter with staff only. Staff supervise all kitchen and cooking with the young people, including guiding the use of all appliances. All outlets tested daily to ensure temperature is below scalding point. Kettle is emptied after use to ensure no boiling water is left unattended.	L
Contact with Plants/ Fungi	Plant scratches, stings/ allergies. Poisoning from plants/ fungi.	All	M	Pathways/yard to be kept clear of vegetation. All CYP/Visitors to be aware of potential risks, such as ragwort and Stinging nettles. Staff to be aware of the potential poisonous plants and alert management for the removal to be actioned. Site-sweeps every 6 weeks to identify any new hazards.	L
Farm Equipment and Tools	Injury from improper use	All	M	Tools stored securely when not in use. Individuals or groups only to use tools with permission and after	L

				<p>instruction with staff as necessary. Tools kept well-maintained for safe usage. Children and young people are not to use any farm machinery (until appropriate training potentially in the future). Individual risk assessments created and read before using tools, specific to the situation, group and activity.</p>	
Other farm users	Safeguarding issues	All	M	<p>Staff and regular volunteers at the farm are DBS checked and operate within the Elysian's safeguarding policy. Farm staff are identified by staff badges (and Elysian t-shirts). During the young people's session times (9:30 am-3.00 PM), external visitors are escorted at all times.</p>	L
Fire	Burns, smoke inhalation, trampling	All	H	<p>Please see the Fire Risk assessment and policy for Elysian. In the event of fire leave the farm following instructions from farm staff. Meeting points signposted to the visitor carpark and by the horse walker.</p>	L