

Animal Encounters Derbyshire

Last Update: 11.11.22

HAZARD	HAZARD RISKS	WHO IS AT RISK?	RISK LEVEL	CONTROL MEASURES	RESPONSIBILITY
Handling live animals	Bites, scratches, animal secretions	All persons attending event Animal handler	LOW	Animals are used for meeting the public and an individual risk assessment is available for each animal. Event organiser accepts responsibility for ensuring all participants and parent/guardians of any person under the age of 18 has access to this and understand the risks Verbal instructions given for each individual animal on how to interact with animals and any risks associated by animal handler. Safety signs displayed at fun days. Verbal instructions given at the beginning of all sit-down animal shows. Adults must accompany children under 18 First aid kit available for minor injuries.	Animal handler Accompanying adults present Children to follow instructions
Handling live animals	Infection (i.e salmonella)	All persons attending event Animal handler	LOW	Antibacterial hand gel provided for venues with no hand washing facilities. Signage and verbal instructions to wash hands with hot running water and soap before eating. Handler will verbally prompt hand washing before and during and after the event when required. Verbal warning for persons not to put hands near eyes or mouth at beginning of session. Animals are checked regularly for parasites and signs of illness/ disease. Animal waste properly disposed of. Persons who are immuno-compromised, pregnant, elderly or under 2's are advised not to participate	Animal handler Accompanying adults present Children to follow instructions



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Handling live animals	Allergies / phobias	All persons attending event	Low	Event planners are responsible for notifying all other attendees of the: risk assessment, what animals they have requested, and whether they have allergies to animals, animal feed or phobias. Event planners may change animals requested to accommodate event for all persons attending. Animal handler will make verbal warning at the beginning of the event and will ask each individual if they would like to move away from the animal or leave the room if they are uncomfortable. However animal handler will try all possible ways to encourage these person/s to be involved.	Animal handler Event planner/s Accompanying adults present Children to follow instructions
Child Protection	Children	Children attending event	Low	We come in our Animal Encounters uniform. Vehicle has sign writing and graphics. Employed staff are DBS checked. There must be enough adults are to supervise children/ groups during event.	Animal handler Event planner/s Accompanying adults present Children to follow instructions
Use of chemicals	Reaction/ side effect of chemical used by us	All persons attending event	Low	Disinfectant spray is used to clean animal waste. Antibacterial hand gel/ rub. Instructions indicate it is safe to use on all children under adult supervision. Contains bitter taste to prevent putting hands in mouth after application.	Animal handler Event planner/s Accompanying adults present Children to follow instructions



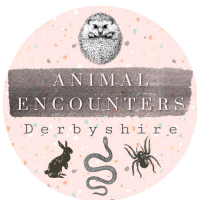
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Use of equipment	Falling/tripping over Leaning on: animal cages, fences, tables, gazebo, table cloths or netting	All persons attending event	Low	Signage displayed at fun days 'no running or leaning on fences or tables' Verbal instructions given at sit down events for appropriate behaviour. Adults must accompany children under 18. First aid kit available for minor injuries.	Animal handler Event planner/s Accompanying adults present Children to follow instructions
Games	Falls Trips	All persons attending event	Low	Event planner responsible for supervising children and controlling children who are behaving dangerously to avoid collisions with other children or furniture Staff are also responsible for helping to manage behaviour and safety during games	Animal handler Event planner/s Accompanying adults present Children to follow instructions
Animal Welfare	Stress on the animals Over handling Poor handling Loud noises Weather	Animals	Low	Each animal comes out for a specified time period of no more than 10 minutes per hour. Staff are trained on how to instruct the public on how to stroke/ hold animals During busy periods animals are touch only There are age limits for specific species to prevent injury to the animal and the public Must not be near loud music, busy walkways or food Must have a power source for heat mats if needed and will only be outside should the temperature be between 18-25 degrees with no wind or heavy rain	Animal handler Event planner/s Accompanying adults present Children and adults to follow verbal instructions given



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Clothing / Furnishings	Secretions may stain some clothing / furnishings.	All persons attending event, clothing and soft furnishings	Low	All efforts will be made to ensure any bodily secretions are cleaned up as quickly as possible to avoid any staining. Hands should be washed immediately if this happens.	Animal handler Event planner/s Accompanying adults present Children and adults to follow verbal instructions given
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SPECIFIC ANIMAL RISKS

ANIMAL	HAZARD RISKS	RISK LEVEL	CONTROL MEASURES	RESPONSIBILITY
Hedgehog	Bite, scratch Escape	LOW LOW	Handler will instruct on how children/adults can interact with the animal safely. No food to be eaten prior to or during the event which would encourage biting or nibbling of the skin. If eating before people must wash their hands or use hand gel. Handler will retrieve animals and secure them.	Animal handler Event planner/s Accompanying adults present Children to follow instructions
Bearded Dragon	Bite Salmonella Escape	LOW LOW LOW	Handler will instruct on how children/adults can interact with the animal safely. Not recommended for handling by children under 5 or immunocompromised persons. No food to be eaten prior to or during the event which would encourage biting or nibbling of the skin. If eating before people must wash their hands or use hand gel. Handler will retrieve animals and secure them	
Tortoise	Bite Salmonella Escape	Low Low Low	Handler will instruct on how children/adults can interact with the animal safely. Not recommended for handling by children under 5 or immunocompromised persons. No food to be eaten prior to or during the event which would encourage biting or nibbling of the skin. If eating before people must wash their	Animal handler Event planner/s Accompanying adults present



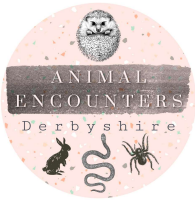
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			hands or use hand gel. Handler will retrieve animals and secure them.	Children to follow instructions
Corn Snake	Sickness Small skin punctures (Bite) ESCAPE	LOW LOW	Handler will explain interaction procedures verbally. No food to be eaten prior to or during the event which would encourage biting or nibbling of the skin. If eating before people must wash their hands or use hand gel. Handler will retrieve animals and secure them.	Animal handler Event planner/s Accompanying adults present Children to follow instructions
Tarantula	Flicking hairs Bite Escape	LOW LOW LOW	Handler will explain interaction procedures verbally. Handler will retrieve animals and secure them.	Animal handler Event planner/s Accompanying adults present Children to follow instructions
Millipede	Secrete fluid harmful to eyes or ingested. May stain hands. Escape	LOW/MED LOW	Handler will instruct on correct handling procedures. Secretion must be washed off immediately. Must not put in the mouth or eyes. Must NOT be handled by any person with a nut allergy. Handler will retrieve animals and secure them.	Animal handler Event planner/s Accompanying adults present Children to follow instructions



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Gerbils	Bite, scratch	Low	<p>Handler will instruct on how children/adults can interact with the animal safely.</p> <p>No food to be eaten prior to or during the event which would encourage biting or nibbling of the skin. If eating before people must wash their hands or use hand gel.</p>	<p>Animal handler</p> <p>Event planner/s</p> <p>Accompanying adults present</p>
	Escape	Low	<p>Handler will retrieve animals and secure them.</p>	<p>Children to follow instructions</p>
Crested Gecko / Bearded Dragon / Tortoise	Bite.	Low	<p>Handler will instruct on how children/adults can interact with the animal safely.</p> <p>No food to be eaten prior to or during the event which would encourage biting or nibbling of the skin. If eating before people must wash their hands or use hand gel.</p>	<p>Animal handler</p> <p>Event planner/s</p>
	Salmonella.	Low	<p>No food to be eaten prior to or during the event which would encourage biting or nibbling of the skin. If eating before people must wash their hands or use hand gel.</p>	<p>Accompanying adults present</p>
	Escape.	Low	<p>Handler will retrieve animals and secure them.</p>	<p>Children to follow instructions</p>



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Indemnity

Participation could involve activities such as stroking or holding a non-venomous snake, or handling one of the animals listed above. These activities have been carried out at Animal Encounters, Derbyshire without incident since its inception.

Please ensure you have read the risk assessment prior to the event date. The event organiser is responsible for ensuring all adults/participants/ parents/guardians are aware of the risks and have consented for themselves or their child/ren to take part. Except at event days where Animal Encounters, Derbyshire will display a copy of the risk assessment.

1. Realising that every care will be exercised, I hereby indemnify Animal Encounters, Derbyshire and its staff, work experience students, volunteers and all animals against all actions, suits, claims and demands (including costs) for personal injury or damage to, or loss of, personal property incurred as a result of any person or my child's participation in the event without limitation, negligence on the part of Animal Encounters, Derbyshire or its Employees, work experience students and volunteers.
2. I fully understand the risks and dangers associated with my child's (or my personal representative, heirs or assigns) participation, in The Event, and accept same entirely at my own risk. By reading the risk assessment and this agreement you agree to the terms of the booking and indemnify Animal Encounters, Derbyshire of all claims.

If you have any queries, please contact us via email hello@animalencountersderbyshire.co.uk