



CCO38 Biosecurity Policy and Procedure ***Infection Prevention and Control***

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to minimise the risk of introducing, transmitting or spreading infectious diseases between livestock, poultry, educational areas, staff, students, visitors, contractors and wildlife at CoRE Creative Education CIC.

This policy forms part of CoRE's commitment to animal health, welfare, public safety and responsible livestock management. It applies to all persons entering or working within livestock and animal management areas.

2. Biosecurity Principles

Disease-causing organisms can be spread through a variety of pathways including:

1. footwear (see footwear disinfection procedure)
2. Clothing, hands (see cleaning policy)
3. Equipment, feed and water (see animal housing, feeding cleaning procedure)
4. Wildlife and vermin (see below)

To reduce these risks, all staff, students, volunteers, visitors, and contractors are required to comply with site biosecurity measures at all times. The objectives of this policy are to prevent the introduction of infectious diseases, minimise disease transmission between species, protect animal welfare, maintain compliance with veterinary and government guidance, and support safe educational activities involving animals.

3. General Site Biosecurity Measures

Animal Health Monitoring

All livestock will be monitored daily for signs of illness, lameness, respiratory disease, parasites, unusual behaviour, and sudden mortality. Any concerns identified during these inspections must be reported to management immediately. Where a significant disease risk is identified, veterinary advice will be sought promptly to ensure appropriate action is taken and animal health and welfare are maintained.

Safe Human to Animal Interaction

- Handwashing is mandatory after touching animals, feed, bedding, fences, manure, or animal equipment
- No eating or drinking in animal areas
- Cuts, grazes, or open wounds must be covered before animal contact

- Protective clothing or boots must be worn where appropriate
- Animals must be approached calmly and handled only under supervision
- Feeding must follow approved animal-specific guidance
- Stress to animals must be minimised at all times
- Animal welfare takes priority over activity participation

The following controls apply across all livestock areas:

Access Control

- Animals at CoRE are part of the team and so there is no restriction or access to the animals, unless an animal is unwell and would then have access to the stable over in the wildflower meadow, for recovery and specialist veterinary care.
- Fallen Stock is contacted when livestock pass away and removed within 24 hrs. Access is by the wildflower meadow gate.

Hygiene Measures

- Hands should be washed after animal contact. Handwashing is available when leaving the paddock field, with 2 hand washing areas.
- Footwear disinfection stations are located outside the cabin on arrival and at the gate that accesses the main paddock.
- Feed is provided by John Bright in Bridport and is stored in metal bins in the feed store. and bedding (hay and straw) is stored in the barn.

Equipment Controls

- Dedicated equipment should be used for different animal groups wherever possible eg. donkey equipment kept in donkey cabinet. Goat grooming brushes kept in barn, cat brush kept in office.
- No animal feeding equipment is shared. The Red buckets used for goats, Yellow buckets for sheep and other feeding bowls are in the animal enclosures.
- Shared equipment must be cleaned and disinfected before use with another species or group.
- Feeding and watering equipment must be regularly cleaned.

Wildlife and Vermin Control

- Feed is protected from contamination by wildlife and vermin and kept in metal bins and extra feed is stored in a lockable container to avoid vermin.

- Spillages should be removed promptly and feeding in chicken pens happens at a time to give them time to consume (in winter) and summer to ensure not too much excess.
- Vermin control measures will be maintained across the site and can be viewed in the Vermin control log, which is updated weekly.
- In the case of Avian Flu, a wire cage is prepared and can be netted and poultry

Avian Influenza Contingency Arrangements

The poultry enclosure includes a designated half-netted section designed for rapid conversion into a protected housing area.

Protected housing measures may be implemented following:

- Declaration of an Avian Influenza Prevention Zone (AIPZ)
- Mandatory housing requirements
- Local avian influenza outbreaks
- Veterinary advice indicating increased disease risk

When activated:

- Birds will be moved into the protected section.
- Contact with wild birds and wild bird droppings will be prevented.

This arrangement enables:

- Compliance with government disease controls.
- Reduced avian influenza transmission risk.
- Maintenance of animal welfare standards.
- Rapid emergency response.

Sheep and Goats

To reduce disease risks:

- Newly acquired animals will be quarantined where practicable before joining resident stock.
- Animals will be monitored for signs of infectious disease.
- Feeding and watering equipment will be regularly cleaned.
- Grazing areas will be monitored to reduce contamination risks.

- Appropriate parasite control programmes will be implemented based on veterinary advice.

Particular attention will be paid to:

- Foot Rot
- Contagious Ovine Digital Dermatitis (CODD)
- Caseous Lymphadenitis (CLA)
- Orf
- Internal parasites

Pigs

Feeding Controls

- Catering waste, kitchen waste and meat products must never be fed to pigs.

Health Monitoring

Pigs will be monitored daily for:

- Fever
- Lethargy
- Loss of appetite
- Respiratory symptoms
- Other signs of illness

Any suspected notifiable disease must be reported immediately to vets.

Donkeys

Donkeys will be protected through:

- Routine health monitoring.
- Isolation of sick animals where appropriate.
- Regular cleaning of shelters, stables and feeding equipment.
- Maintenance of clean water supplies.
- Appropriate vaccination and parasite control programmes based on veterinary advice.

Vaccinations for the following animals (based on veterinary advice, so to exclude pigs)

- Annual vaccinations for sheep, lambs, goats (Synergy Farm Health) donkeys (Bluestone Equine) dogs and cats (Medivet) on site.

Worming

Dogs and cat

Monthly worming programme (prescribed by Medivet) administered by owner of Limemead Farm.

Sheep, goats, donkeys and pigs

Quarterly faecal egg count taken and wormer administered as necessary by Synergy Farm Health vets

Poultry

6 monthly faecal sample to check for worms conducted by Synergy Farm Health and medication as authorised by vets.

Signed by: Alasdair Green (**Education manager**) **Dated:** 3/7/ 2026