



Getting here

Ash End House Children's Farm

Middleton Lane

Middleton

Nr. Tamworth

Staffs, B78 2BL

We are just south of the village of Middleton although we don't recommend you travel through the village itself. The easiest access is from the A4091, the main road running from The Belfry to Tamworth. *Please don't approach us from the A446 – the lane is too narrow for coaches from that direction.*

From the A4091, look out for signs directing you along Park Lane which runs into Middleton Lane. The farm is about one mile from the main road.

Coaches must approach via the A4091 and are by appointment only. We ask that coaches must stay on the property for the duration of the visit if possible to avoid congestion on our narrow lanes.

Pre-Visit

Several teachers/leaders are welcome to visit the farm before your trip, free of charge. Bring your school/group letterhead or our confirmation letter with you as identification – no need to book.

We have a Risk Assessment you can take away or ask us to email it to you.



When to arrive

On a busy day it is important that you arrive on time. *If you have a 10.00/10.30* booking with a tour before lunch, we recommend arrival 30 minutes before your tour begins. *If you have a tour starting at 12.00*, arrive at approximately 10.30/10.45 for a short play before you eat. Please don't arrive too early unless you have booked additional pre-tour activities (e.g., Birds of Prey or Creepy Critters). Although we have two "holding" play areas, these may be shared with other groups – we can't guarantee exclusivity or dry weather! **Unfortunately, we cannot allow you onto the main farm area unsupervised by our farm staff before your organised tour.**

On arrival

Leave the children on the coach and send the organiser/leader to report to the Farm Reception (or you may be met). We need to know your exact numbers at this point - both the adult and child count. This will determine the number of tour guides we allocate, with a ratio of approximately 30-40 children per guide.

Lunch arrangements

- Groups with **10.00 or 10.30 bookings** will go straight onto the farm for their 90-minute tour. Leave lunch boxes on the coach: these can be picked up **after** your tour, before you go to your allocated picnic barn.
- Groups with **12.00 tours** usually have a short play and eat first. You will be directed to your picnic barn and your guide will then meet you there at the start of your tour time. Remember to leave time to pop your empty lunchboxes back to the coach, as the morning tours will be using the picnic barns or an alternative storage area

Before your tour, a guide will give a quick Health and Safety talk, emphasising hand-washing. This will be on arrival, or shortly before your tour starts.

Your time on the farm

Tours will vary depending on your theme, but all allow plenty of time with the animals. The tour lasts approximately 90 minutes. If you have a short amount of time **after your tour** and lunch, the staff can advise appropriate "free-range" activities before your coach is ready to leave. If you have pre-booked additional activities, you'll be advised about the itinerary for these when you check-in. The arrangements for these depend on the size and time of your tour.

Approximate layout of our farm ... some areas change as we make improvements.



Play Barn outdoor play areas: Open Easter to September and school holidays. Weather permitting.