



my greener school

Risk Assessment for Keeping Chickens at a school or college

Version 1.1
15/09/2010



Potential Risks and Measures to Control Risk

Nature of Potential Risk	State What Control Measure Is In Place	State What Control Measure Needs To Be Implemented (If Not In Place or Further Action Is Required):	Residual Risk Level (Low, Medium, High)
Training & Overall Project Suitability Issues			
Is your breed of chickens considered suitable for children? (Consult the RSPCA's Education Unit for advice.)			
Are all staff adequately trained in all health and safety aspects of keeping chickens?			
Are all staff adequately trained in all animal welfare aspects of keeping chickens?			
Have all staff involved been suitably trained in the hygiene requirements of keeping and of chickens?			
Have all staff involved been suitably trained in the animal welfare aspects of keeping and of chickens?			
Day To Day Keeping and Handling Issues			
Have the chickens been sourced from a reputable supplier?			
Are all necessary cleaning products and protective clothing available for the cleaning of the housing for chickens?			
Has a rota been drawn up for the supervised and adequate cleaning and disinfection of this housing?			



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General Suitable Hygiene & Cleaning Issues			
Is there a suitable hand-washing protocol in place for all adults and children both before and after coming into contact with the chickens and ducks?			
Do any staff or adults have known allergies to chickens and any materials involved in keeping them (e.g., feathers, bedding, etc) ?			
Are there standard First Aid facilities available at all times to handle minor bites, scratches, etc?			
What substances are to be used for cleaning and disinfection of the housing?			
Do they fall under the remit of Control of Substances Hazardous To Health (COSHH) legislation?			
If not subject to COSHH legislation, is the product manufacturer's data safety sheet available to follow for safe storage and handling?			
Further Assessment of Foreseeable Risks Not Covered Above			
What other miscellaneous foreseeable risks exist in relation to the keeping of chickens? (Continue on separate sheet if necessary)			



Children and Chicken's Health * Disease Control Issues			
Nature of Potential Risk	State What Control Measure Is In Place	State What Control Measure Needs To Be Implemented (If Not In Place or Further Action Is Required):	Residual Risk Level (Low, Medium, High)
Has a named vet been contacted to provide care should this become necessary?			
Do any staff or adults have known allergies to chickens or any materials involved in keeping them (for example, feathers, bedding, etc) ?			
Are there standard First Aid facilities available at all times to handle minor bites, scratches, etc?			
Have the following vaccinations been administered to all chickens before arrival at school? (See Vaccinations sheet overleaf)			
Name & Position of Staff Member completing this Risk Assessment	Signature	Date	Date for Review



Chicken's Vaccinations Sheet N.b. not all of these are necessary and equally this is not a complete list:

Name of Vaccination	Date of Administration	Name of Vaccination	Date of Administration
Rispens – THV Mareks Disease Virus / Turkeys Herpes Virus		days Proactive / Preventative (general health)	
Health Check Salmonella / Bacterial Viruses		ILT Infectious Laryngotracheitis	
Paracox (on request) Coccidiosis		M&S / Clone 30 Newcastle Disease / I Bronchitis – M41 Strain	
Health Check General Health Check		TRT Live (Nemovac) Turkey Rhino – Tracheitis	
Gallivac S.e Salmonella Enteriditis		IB Primer (Fort Dodge) Infectious Bronchitis – 274 strain	
D78 Infectious Bursal Disease / Gumborough Disease		Manure test for worms If positive treat 7 days before depopulation	
Vitamins (spectrum) 2		IB941 Infectious Bronchitis – 793B strain	
days Proactive / Preventative (general health)		Blood test for: 20 samples taken from each flock	
D78 Infectious Bursal Disease / Gumborough Disease		IBM41 IB793B	
HB1 Nobliss Newcastle Disease		ND MG & MS	
Vitamins (spectrum) 2		TRT	
days Proactive / Preventative (general health)		AE Avian Encephalomyelitis / Epidemic Tremors	
Gallivac S.e Salmonella Enteriditis		TRT Live (Nemovac) Turkey Rhino – Tracheitis	
D78 Infectious Bursal Disease / Gumborough Disease		Test for Salmonella 60 Samples from each flock	
IB Variant Infectious Bronchitis – 93B strain		Triple Egg Drop Syndrome	
Vitamins (spectrum) 2		Newcastle Disease	



Risk Assessment Resources: Keeping Chickens

Keeping chickens can be a very valuable part of a schools educational work to introduce children to the natural world and to the correct care and treatment of animals. In addition, the work can be tailored by schools to meet many of the requirements of the National Curriculum throughout all the Key Stages. This document is provided to get you started towards writing your school's Risk Assessment for keeping chickens. It obviously can't cover all eventualities and there could be new policies developed following a change in government, therefore please refer to appropriate DEE guidance to ensure you are up to date with all the requirements. Here are some resources to help you start the process, which you are strongly advised to consult:

Government Bodies:	
Department For Education	WebSite http://www.education.gov.uk/
Health and Safety Executive	http://www.hse.gov.uk/
Consortium of Local Education Authorities for the Provision of Science Services	http://www.cleapss.org.uk/
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	http://ww2.defra.gov.uk/ http://www.defra.gov.uk/foodfarm/farmanimal/diseases/vetsurveillance/poultry/index.htm
Useful Resources on School Safety:	
Teachernet.Gov	http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/management/tools/riskmanagement/ http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/teachingandlearning/simpliplan/riskmanagement/ http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/management/atoz/r/riskmanagement/
Royal Society For The Prevention Of Accidents	http://www.rospa.com/safetieducation/adviceandinformation/health-and-safety-at-school/
Education Support From UK Animal Welfare Organisations:	
RSPCA Education Unit	http://www.rspca.org.uk/servlet/Satellite?pagename=RSPCA/Page/TeachersPortalHome&cid=1086091844592 http://www.rspca.org.uk/allaboutanimals/pets/faranimals/chickens
Blue Cross Education Service Offer FREE downloads online videos and on-site talks for schools including a free talk dedicated to Risk Assessment.	http://www.bluecross.org.uk/web/FILES/Literature/_TEACHERS_FLYER_LR.pdf http://www.bluecross.org.uk/web/site/Education_area/Education_talks_introduction.asp
Universities Federation for Animal Welfare Support for staff on Animal Keeping for Universities and Colleges.	http://www.ufaw.org.uk/programmes.php
British Hen Welfare Trust Re-homes former battery hens and has both many facts about keeping hens online plus a dedicated helpline (01362 822904)	http://www.bhwt.org.uk/
The Poultry Club For Schools Provide educational resources to help lesson planning	http://www.poultryclub.org/Schools.htm