

Spring / Summer

Residential Visits to Fordhall Organic Farm



"By restoring connections between hearts, minds and the soil, we will encourage and create meaningful change which helps build health and resilience within people and planet."

Introduction

A residential visit to Fordhall Organic Farm offers groups the opportunity to immerse themselves into life here at Fordhall. In the morning, you will get stuck in on our Farm to Fork tour learning about everything from worms and grasses, to livestock and food miles; followed by an instructor led afternoon in our very own woodland, focusing on team-building with child-led activities. Options include building shelters, slacklining, nature play and crafts.

The evening will consist of a hearty shared meal prepared by our on-site chef and finished off by yourselves before having the opportunity for an evening of free time. Evening activities led by us are available as an optional extra.



The next morning is dependent on the season but is likely to involve a conservation task or lending a hand in our Community Garden; tasks that could see us doing anything from planting seeds and weeding the beds to creating mud baths for pigs and making natural bird feeders. This will be followed by a short habitat hunt to explore and discover the many bugs and insects in their natural environment hidden around the farm.



If you opt for the 2-night itinerary there will be extra activities included. Please see the tables on the following pages for full details.

We are happy to consider visits for all ages, but feel it particularly suits years 3 and 4 for their first residential visit. We are able to offer Straw Lodge accommodation for up to 30 Children and 4 Adults.

This is a working farm and, although we cannot guarantee any hands-on experience with the animals, we will definitely get as up close and personal to some worms and other livestock as we can. Hopefully, depending on the time of the year, there may be the opportunity to feed pigs, cows and chickens.

School staff are also very welcome to run their own activities.

Site Map



Standard One Night Itinerary

		Day 1	Day 2
08:00			Self-serve breakfast
09:00 – 10:00		Arrive at Fordhall at 09:45	Morning Duties Seasonally dependant jobs, which could include: watering the garden, feeding the cows, checking the lambs.
10:00 – 12:00	Morning Activity	Field to Fork Farm Tour A practical activity including: Fordhall's history; the FCL; organic principles; tasting and debating; cows, lambs, pigs, worms and grasses activities; meet the butcher.	Habitat Hunters A farm exploration: hunting for habitats of bugs and insects, seeing where they live and creating your own bug house to take home.
12:00 – 14:00		Bring your own packed lunch and free time	D.I.Y Picnic lunch
14:00 – 16:00	Afternoon Activity	Wild in the Woods A supervised relaxed, child-led woodland-based session with seasonal, practical experiences. Including Hammocks, Slacklines, Shelter building, Natural Crafts.	Depart Fordhall after lunch
16:00 – 18:30		Bunkhouse orientation, room settle and dinner (Fordhall Staff to Leave at 5pm)	



Standard Two Night Itinerary

		Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
08:00			Self-serve breakfast	Self-serve breakfast
09:00 – 10:00		Arrive at Fordhall at 09.45	Morning Duties Seasonally dependant jobs, which could include: watering the garden, feeding the cows, checking the lambs.	Morning Duties Seasonally dependant jobs, which could include: watering the garden, feeding the cows, checking the lambs.
10:00 – 12:00	Morning Activity	Field to Fork Farm Tour A practical activity including: Fordhall's history; the FCLI; organic principles; tasting and debating; cows, lambs, pigs, worms and grasses activities; meet the butcher.	Habitat Hunters A farm exploration: hunting for habitats of bugs and insects, seeing where they live and creating your own bug house to take home.	Trails and Navigation Recognise landscape features through practical activities and will be introduced to orienteering. Groups can set and follow their own trails as well as following simple check point trails.
12:00 – 14:00		Bring your own packed lunch and free time	Lunch and free time	Lunch
14:00 – 16:00	Afternoon Activity	Wild in the Woods A supervised but relaxed, child-led woodland-based session with seasonal, practical experiences. Including Hammocks, Slacklines, Shelter building, Natural Crafts.	Eco-Cooking Focusing on food, where it's from and healthy diets. Using produce from our Community Garden and our organic farm shop; you have a choice of jacket potatoes cooked on an open fire with homemade beans and hand-linked sausages or homemade pizzas cooked in our outdoor cob oven.	Depart Fordhall after lunch
16:00 – 18:30		Bunkhouse orientation, room settle and dinner (Fordhall staff to leave at 5pm)	Free time - eat the food we prepared earlier (Fordhall staff to leave at 5pm)	



Food at the Farm

We offer a fully catered package for your school using locally sourced and organic ingredients that will fuel your group for the busy days whilst at the farm.

We encourage meal times at the farm to be a social and shared experience, with all children involved in some parts of the process. Whether it is the making of sandwiches, preparing of salads, the serving of food and washing of dishes, or even the composting of food waste, we like to encourage the involvement in everything from Farm to Fork.

- Breakfasts are provided by us on a self-serve basis. School group leaders to facilitate prep, serving and clean-up of breakfast.
- Lunches are a D.I.Y Sandwich Station. Ingredients are provided by Fordhall Farm. School group leaders to facilitate set up, creation and tidy up of lunch.
- Dinners, sides and desserts are prepared freshly by our on-site chef. These are provided to you cold with heating instructions. School group leaders to facilitate heating, serving and tidy up of dinner.

Sample Residential Menu

	Day 1	Day 2
Breakfast		Cereals, toast and preserves
Lunch	Bring your own packed lunch	Packed lunch: sandwiches and fruit snack
Dinner	Homemade cottage pie and garlic bread Dessert: Brownies	

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
Breakfast		Cereals, toast and preserves	Cereals, toast and preserves
Lunch	Bring your own packed lunch	Packed lunch: sandwiches and fruit snack	Packed lunch: sandwiches and fruit snack
Dinner	Homemade cottage pie and garlic bread Dessert: Brownies	Eco-cooking: pizzas or jackets, beans and sausages Dessert	

We would need to know of any dietary requirements in advance so we can cater for these. Tea, coffee and water available at all times throughout the day. Squash available for children during meal times.



Key Stage Links	KS1	KS2
Field to Fork Farm Tour	DT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Where food comes from 	DT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How food is grown, reared and processed
Woodland Experience	Explore nature, mental and physical wellbeing	Explore nature, mental and physical wellbeing
Habitat Hunters	Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Habitats – animals and plants - Simple food chains 	Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grouping living things - Classification keys - Environmental changes
Eco-Cooking	DT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Healthy diet 	DT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seasonality - Healthy diet - Cooking techniques
Navigation and Trails	Physical Geography <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fieldwork – map construction 	Physical Geography <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fieldwork – map construction

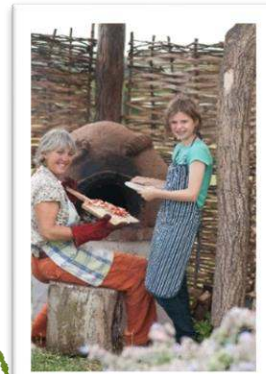
Risk Assessment

There are full risk assessments for our residential visits and all activities during your stay. These are all available on request.

Residential Costs (all passenger numbers include accompanying adults)

- A 1-night residential stay with a group of up to 15 people costs £760
15 – 32 people = £760 plus £35 a head for any number over 15
- A 2-night residential stay with a group of up to 15 people costs £1450
15 – 32 people = £1450 plus £70 a head for any number over 15

This includes: accommodation, all meals and activities as stated on the timetable.
(Please get in touch to see how we can amend things to suit your group's needs)



Where you will be staying

You will be staying in our fantastic Straw Lodge. Our beautiful eco-building, built mainly out of straw bales, with a round wood timber frame. Using solar PV Panels to produce all the electricity you may need, your stay is not only relaxing, but also gentle on our planet.

Sleeping Arrangements

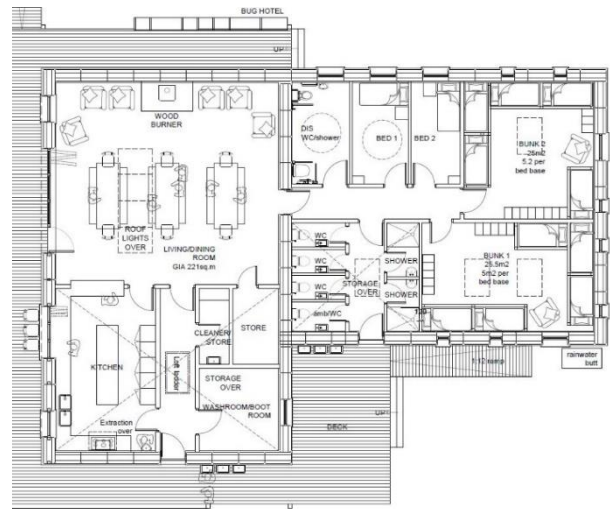
2 bunk rooms:

- each contain 5 x bunkbeds and 1 x triple bunk to sleep 13 children
- 2 camp beds available to be split between the 2 rooms to help accommodate gender splits

2 leaders' rooms:

- one with 1 bunk bed to sleep 2 leaders
- one with 1 bunk bed, double below and single on top, to sleep 2 leaders

(Full bedding is not provided – we provide a bottom sheet, duvet and pillow. Guests must bring duvet covers and pillow cases, or a sleeping bag and pillow cases.)



What else you need to bring:

- Towels.
- Any additional snacks.
- Any additional entertainment such as board games (although we do have some on-site).
- Sensible outdoor clothing and footwear for a farm location - waterproof jackets and wellies are essential!
- Slippers for inside the building, we request outdoor footwear is left on the boot racks.

This pack is for visits April to September, please ask for our Winter pack for visits October to March

**For any more information or to book your visit
please contact**

[**project@fordhallfarm.com**](mailto:project@fordhallfarm.com)