



Yorkshire Wildlife Park - Hazard Identification Sheet

Here at Yorkshire Wildlife Park, the health and safety of our visitors is paramount. We operate under the conditions of the Zoo Licensing Act and are subject to annual inspections as well as complying fully to all obligations under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974. To this end, we have full policies and procedures to cover all aspects of Park operation including, but not limited to –

- Fire Evacuation
- Dangerous Animal Escape
- Lost Children
- Work Activities

It is the responsibility of teachers, group leaders and event organisers to complete a risk assessment, specific to their group, prior to the date of visit.

This document serves to provide preparatory guidance for the completion of a full, individual risk assessment and does not act as a substitute for this.

Please note: the weather can be changeable and present shifting hazards during your visit. Please always be alert and aware of any additional hazards that may arise.

Arriving at the Park:

Coaches are parked close to our education entrance, but vehicle movement is inevitable. Visitors are advised to keep to the paths and designated crossing points in the car park when heading to the entrance.

Pathways:

All visitors are advised to keep to designated pathways throughout their visit. On busy days, some areas can become congested at which point YWP staff may decide to limit capacity in these areas. Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied and supervised by an adult at all times. Visitors are advised to wear appropriate clothing and sturdy, closed-toe footwear.

Dangerous Animals:

There are dangerous animals onsite. All enclosures are designed to keep space between the animals and our visitors. We ask all visitors to observe our terms of entry and take heed of any warning signs in place. A Dangerous Animal Escape procedure is in place at the Park. In the case of an escape, staff members will direct all visitors towards safe areas.



Electric Fences:

Some enclosures do have electric fences. These are all clearly marked and positioned behind additional stand-off fencing. Visitors are advised to take heed of warning signs and stick to designated pathways. Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied and supervised by an adult at all times.

Free-roaming Animals in Walkthrough Enclosures:

We have 3 walkthrough enclosures onsite (Lemur Woods, Wallaby Walkthrough and South America Viva) where animals are not physically separated from visitors. A ranger is always present in this area to ensure welfare. Guests are advised to stick to designated pathways. Visitors are advised to read and follow advice given on signage.

Walkthrough areas have dual gates in order to prevent animal escape. Only one gate should ever be open at one time. One gate should always be closed.

Animals in walkthrough enclosures are used to interacting with the public but can be unpredictable. Visitors are advised not to pursue or antagonise animals. Animals should not be touched apart from the wallabies or animals presented during a staff-controlled meet and greet session. Please always listen to and act upon instructions from staff.

Zoonotic Diseases:

Animals should not be touched apart from the wallabies or animals presented during a staff-controlled meet and greet session. Please always listen to and act upon instructions from staff. Hand sanitizer and sinks are in position near all walkthrough exhibits. Signage provides advice and visitors are advised to use hand wash facilities when leaving these areas. Staff will advise on hygiene if leading a meet and greet session.

Outdoor Play Areas:

We have 5 outdoor play areas at the Park: Jungle Lookout, Oasis Play Area, Big Bugs Play Area, Kululu Play Island & Red Panda Play area. Our play areas have been specifically designed to be both fun and safe. They are checked daily to ensure that they are safe to use before opening. These areas are not supervised by YWP staff, all children must be supervised by a responsible adult. These areas are for children only.

Our outdoor play areas contain various items of play equipment with varying hazards including heights and a zip line. Teachers, group leaders and event organisers are strongly advised to conduct a pre-visit of these areas if they will form part of the visit.



Monkey Playhouse:

Monkey Playhouse consists of an eating area and indoor children's play area. Our play areas have been specifically designed to be both fun and safe. They are checked daily to ensure that they are safe to use before opening. Staff are in attendance to ensure that no food is taken into the play area. Staff are not present to supervise children or monitor behaviour, adult supervision is required. To manage capacity, prams and pushchairs must be left outside in our designated buggy park. Further information about the Monkey Playhouse is available on request.

Zoom Slide Barn:

The Zoom Slide Barn contains several slides of varying steepness. They are checked daily to ensure that they are safe to use before opening. Staff members are present to ensure that strict height regulations are observed. Visitors are advised to take heed of all safety information signposted at the Slide Barn. Suitable clothing must be worn.

Volume of Visitors:

Our site can get very busy on some days resulting in an increase of visitor traffic on all pathways. We strongly advise groups with children to observe our adult/child ratios and stick to designated pathways. Our staff monitor any pinch points onsite and may limit capacity in some areas if required. On our busiest days, visitors are advised to take extra care when supervising children. The Park has lost child procedures in place and can be contacted in any event.

On site traffic:

Traffic on the Park itself is kept to an absolute minimum. Vehicle movement during opening hours will only be permitted if it is a necessity and staff will escort the vehicle. Small vehicles (buggies etc.) may move around during the day. These are only operated by trained staff and have a limited top speed. Visitors are advised to stick to designated footpaths and supervise children at all times.

Fire:

Full fire evacuation procedures are in place. In the case for a fire alarm activation, please leave the building you are in by the nearest exit and leave personal belongings. Staff members will be on hand to direct visitors to muster points. Visitors are advised to use buggy parks to ensure evacuation routes are clear. Any sighting of a fire must be reported to a staff member immediately.



Frequently Asked Questions:

- What do I do in the case of a lost child or vulnerable adult?
Alert any member of staff as soon as possible. Our team will then co-ordinate a search to ensure that you are reunited.
- Can we store lunchboxes or luggage?
We do not have any storage facilities on site. All luggage must be kept with you at all times or remain in your vehicle.
- What do I do if first aid is required?
All schools are required to bring their own first aiders as per the terms and conditions of visiting. We have trained first aiders on site who can assist in an emergency if required. Please just alert any member of staff who will be able to contact a trained first aider. We have an AED located at the entrance of the Park.
- Are there areas for shelter in the case of inclement weather?
Yorkshire Wildlife Park is an outdoor attraction and therefore appropriate clothing for the weather should be worn. There is an indoor picnic area available for groups to use located within the shop at the education entrance. This is not available to pre-book. We do also have indoor eating areas for food purchased at the park.
- Is there CCTV onsite?
We do have CCTV systems at the Park.