



Dear Parent,

### **RHET Perth & Kinross Farm Visit**

Your child's teacher has arranged with RHET (The Royal Highland Education Trust) a Farm Visit. We aim to educate on food, farming and the countryside, and enable the children (and teachers) to understand where their food comes from and how it gets from 'gate to plate'. To find out more about RHET, please see our website: [www.rhet.org.uk](http://www.rhet.org.uk).

We have compiled some information that will be useful before, during and after the visit.

#### **Appropriate Attire**

As always with any outdoor event, please ensure the children dress appropriately.

**Be prepared with correct footwear such as wellies or sturdy boots** – no trainers or UGG boots.

If the weather does look like it is going to be wet please ensure appropriate waterproofs are packed. Having a spare set of clothes to change into is always an idea.

If it is cold, layers of clothing under jackets are recommended, plus a spare pair of socks.

We recommend that dresses and skirts are not worn on farm visits in case the children are walking through long grass

#### **The Visit**

As soon as the children have departed the bus they will be informed of what they will see at the farm as well as a small talk on safety on the farm is given, followed by a boot washing. This is done by the children dipping their feet into a tray of water & disinfectant (we use Virkon). This helps prevent any unwanted bugs coming onto the farm.

We don't allow eating/drinking during the Farm Visit (unless appropriate facilities are available), and discourage the touching of the face, mouth and nose to prevent bug transferral.

We aim to keep the touching of any animals/animal feed/crops etc to the end of the visit as then the children must wash their hands with soap and water. Hand washing is also done again on returning to school.

Before getting back on the bus, the foot dipping is once again completed so as not to take any bugs back to school.

**Although we discourage the wearing of gloves during a visit, sometimes Scotland's winter climate makes this unavoidable. Should gloves be worn, they must be bagged at the end of the visit prior to the hand washing, and not opened/worn again. These should then be washed at school/home.**

We would also suggest that jackets etc... worn on the farm are also washed following the visit.

#### **Risk Assessment**

The school will have a copy of a full and comprehensive Risk Assessment that has been completed by the teacher, farmer and RHET Coordinator during a pre-visit to the location in the last 2 weeks prior to the visit.

With all the procedures in place, a RHET Farm Visit is considered *Low-Risk*.

Should you have any questions, please contact the school for further information.

**We hope your child enjoys their RHET Farm Visit and can bring back some farm facts to share at home.**

Best Regards,

Tara Clark

Perth & Kinross RHET Project Coordinator