

## Health and Wellbeing

Windmill Hill City Farm is a working farm. The farm provides an excellent opportunity for people of all ages and backgrounds to learn about farming and to become actively involved in the production of their food. Animals on the farm include a variety of goats, sheep, pigs and poultry.

Meat from the pigs, goats, sheep and cows, as well as eggs from the chickens, ducks and geese, is used in the café kitchen and sold direct to the public through the farm shop.

We adhere to The Welfare of Farmed Animals Regulations set by DEFRA, and the Five Freedoms recommended by Farm Animal Welfare Council and the RSPCA.

The Five Freedoms of animal welfare are as follows:

1. Freedom from hunger or thirst by ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigour
2. Freedom from discomfort by providing an appropriate environment including shelter and comfortable resting space
3. Freedom from pain, injury or disease by prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment
4. Freedom to express (most) normal behaviour by providing sufficient space, proper facilities and company of the animal's own kind
5. Freedom from fear and distress by ensuring conditions and treatment which avoid mental suffering

To help us keep the animals healthy, please don't feed them, unless you are on a supervised visit, as they have a carefully managed diet and some plants are toxic for them.

To have a safe and enjoyable visit, please make sure to wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water (gels and wipes aren't effective) after you have touched the animals/animal areas and fences.



## Paddocks & Pens

See how many animals you can find out on the farm!



# Animals



Windmill Hill City Farm



### Goats *Herbivorous*

*Male: Billy • Female: Nanny • Young: Kid*  
Goats are very curious and like exploring. They are browsers rather than grazers meaning they pick which parts of plants and shrubs they eat, for example the shoots, leaves or fruit rather than just grazing on grass. Please leave all feeding to staff who know what plants are edible or toxic to goats.



### Pigs *Omnivorous*

*Male: Pig • Female: Gilt/Sow • Young: Piglet*  
Female pigs that have not had piglets are called gilts. Female pigs that have had two or more litters of piglets are called sows. The gestation period for pigs is always 3 months, 3 weeks, and 3 days! Adult pigs can run at speeds of up to 11mph.



### Ducks *Omnivorous*

*Male: Drake • Female: Hen • Young: Duckling*  
Aylesbury ducks are the large white ducks with orange legs, feet and bill. Indian Runner ducks stand tall and run rather than waddle. Male ducks can be distinguished from females by their 2 or 3 curved tail feathers. Duck feathers are waterproof, so that when the duck dives underwater, its downy underlayer of feathers right next to the skin will stay completely dry.



## *Why don't you have horses or donkeys?*

Different animals need different amounts of grazing space and unfortunately we just don't have enough room for a donkey or horse. The whole farm is only four acres including all the buildings.



### Calves *Herbivorous*

*Male: Bull • Female: Heifer/Cow • Young: Calf*  
Female cows are called heifers until they have had two calves, and then they are known as cows. Like humans, cows are pregnant for around 9 months. Cattle are ruminants meaning they chew the cud to help digest plant material. They have 4 special chambers in their stomach to ferment the plant material by bacteria.



### Sheep *Herbivorous*

*Male: Ram • Female: Ewe • Young: Lamb*  
Sheep are also ruminant animals meaning they chew the cud to help digest plant material and have special stomachs to ferment the plant material by bacteria. Sheep have excellent peripheral vision. Their large, rectangular pupils allow them to see almost 360 degrees.



### Guinea Pigs *Herbivorous*

*Male: Boar • Female: Sow • Young: Pup*  
Despite their name they are not pigs and do not come from Guinea; they originated in the Andes. Guinea pigs make all sorts of noises including a wheek, squeal, purring or chattering depending on how they are feeling. Their teeth are constantly growing so it's important for them to chew to wear them down.



### Pygmy Goats *Herbivorous*

*Male: Billy • Female: Nanny • Young: Kid*  
They are very friendly and playful. Pygmy goats originated in Africa. They are flexible and hardy, and can adapt well virtually to all climates. Like other goats they are ruminants. Goats do not have waterproof coats like sheep, so they need shelter from bad weather. Pygmy goats have naturally rounded tummies which can make them look pregnant even when they're not!



### Chickens *Omnivorous*

*Male: Cockerel • Female: Hen • Young: Chick*  
Chickens start laying eggs when they are 18-20 weeks old. They are known as being at "point of lay" at this stage. The colour of the egg shell is determined by the colour of the chicken's ear lobe; red ear lobe equals brown shell, white ear lobe means white shell.



### Giant Rabbits *Herbivorous*

*Male: Buck • Female: Doe • Young: Kit*  
Rabbits help digest their food by re-eating their droppings! It is a similar process to sheep or cows chewing the cud. They have a special bit of intestine where bacteria live which help digest the plant material the rabbits eat.



## *Why is the paddock empty?*

Due to the small size of the farm, we rotate the animals between the paddocks as different animals graze at different rates and we always keep a paddock empty to rejuvenate the grass.

## *Where are the animals?*

The animals move between the farmyard pens in winter and the paddocks in summer, as well as coming in to the pens at birthing time. We also have smaller animals, such as rabbits and guinea pigs, in The Old Dairy.