



Disability Statement

About this statement

Each year the Centre is required by law to review its policy on the support available for Co-Farmers who have disabilities.

This document outlines what is available to Co-Farmers and how the specialist input / services they may need can be obtained. It provides further information relating the broader issues surrounding the centres commitment to this area of its work.

The statement is reviewed annually by the centre manager along with the staff team and will be updated as necessary and in light of any new legislation. It can be made available in other formats and can also be read and explained to Co-Farmers.

Overall Policy

The Centre motto is “Tell me and I’ll forget, Show me and I may remember, Involve me and I’ll understand” we fully appreciate that not all people learn in the same way, we strive to treat all Co-Farmers as individuals. We firmly believe that all learners should be able to access learning in a way and at a pace that leads them to personal fulfilment and achievement regardless of any learning difficulties or disabilities.

Wellies-On CIC aims for excellence through a process of continuous improvement.

All Co-Farmers are subject to entry requirements as set out in their course outline. We will make every effort to provide reasonable adjustments to help each Co-Farmer to achieve his or her qualification aim. There may however be occasions when Wellies-On CIC is not the most appropriate provider for an individual and this in this instance we would sign post to other organisations / providers that may be better placed to support those individuals to achieve their aims.

Identification of need

Co-Farmers will complete an application form prior to starting at the farm. This includes the opportunity for them to make us aware of any particular needs, disabilities, learning difficulties or medical conditions which may have an impact upon their time at the Centre. This information will be used to help ensure adequate support is available and that a course / session on the farm is right for the individual. It will be shared only with centre staff unless otherwise agreed by the individual. If an individual does not share information with us about particular needs it may lead to them not receiving the appropriate level of support / input to maximise the benefits of their time with us.

If once they have started at the Centre an individual feels they have any additional needs not already addressed then they can arrange to talk these over with the group leader. A record would be kept of this meeting (information is held in compliance with the requirements of the Data Protection Act.)

Reviews will be held after the first half term and again at the midway point of the course. These reviews offer an opportunity to re-visit support needs

Support is an entitlement of all Co-Farmers and we actively seek to ensure that everybody has the right support for their individual needs. We may seek the support of

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other professionals in order to provide the right support for individuals, this may include the need for support to be provided by the commissioner in the form of a 1 to 1 staff member. This is handled in a sensitive manner and with the consent / involvement of the Co-Farmer.

Facilities and Support

Support available includes:

- 1:1 support can be provided (this must be agreed prior to the course beginning and will incur additional costs)
- Provision of learning materials in a range of formats including; pictorial, enlarged print and audio.
- OT input and support if required (This will incur additional costs)
- Mentor support
- Learning programmes tailored to individual style and pace
- Therapeutic programmes
- Access to other services including those in the voluntary sector that may be able to provide additional support.
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Individuals accessing our services are very welcome to bring along their own support / buddy.

Wellies-On CIC ensures that all of its staff members receive a programme of ongoing training in order to raise awareness and promote understanding of all issues relating to disabilities and learning difficulties therefore enabling them to deliver accessible and supportive programmes.

The Centre strives to provide equipment and facilities that promote inclusion. Wellies-On CIC is a working farm. Whilst many areas around the farm are fully accessible there are still some areas that are not yet accessible. An ongoing programme of works is being undertaken to create a more physically accessible environment. The Centre has ensured the accessibility of all indoor areas and has a disabled toilet.

Complaints

It is the aim of the Centre to provide all its students / service users with a high quality service. However, from time to time problems do occur. Students / service users have the right to pursue the resolution of any difficulties through the complaints procedure (available from reception or on line).