

Wild Steps during Covid-19 Handbook



About The Community Farm

We are a not-for-profit social enterprise located in the Chew Valley just south of Bath and Bristol. Founded in 2011 as a community benefit society. We are a Nature Friendly organic farm that is owned and governed by our shareholder members. We grow and sell organic and locally sourced food.

Working with a network of organic producers and local farmers who share our ethics, we supply fresh, local and organic food via an organic box delivery service. Through our box delivery service we sell local and organic vegetables, fruit, meat, dairy products and groceries.

Before Covid-19, we provided hands-on experience of organic farming through: School visits, volunteering, away days from work, workshops, and events. We invited groups of volunteers from the community and some corporations to come and work on the field. We also worked in partnership with third sector organisations, running courses or providing experience in horticulture for people who may have specific needs.

Coming to Wild Steps

The Covid-19 outbreak has been a difficult and overwhelming time for many of us. We want to make sure Wild Steps sessions are welcoming, calm and supportive. In order to do this we need to make sure everybody adheres to the Health and Safety procedures stated below. We will also check that everyone is feeling safe during the sessions and if you have any concerns please communicate them with the course facilitator or the group as a whole.

In order for us to be able to operate during these times we are having to change the way we function and tighten our policies and procedures so that we can all stay safe and feel comfortable whilst being together at the farm during the Covid-19 outbreak.



What are the new safety procedures for Wild Steps?

To keep everyone safe, you must not come to the farm if you are feeling at all unwell, or if showing any symptoms of Covid-19, or if you have been in contact with anyone who has symptoms (high temperature, new continuous cough).

Health and Hygiene -

- On arrival, we ask that you wash your hands.
- Throughout the day hands must be washed every 2 hours, or after touching items someone else may have touched, unless wearing gloves. (Please bring your own hand sanitiser if you have any as supplies are short and they are in high demand).
- Please bring your own gardening gloves.
- Please avoid touching your face whilst at the farm, and cover your mouth when you sneeze using a sleeve or tissue and bin it right away afterwards.
- Wash hands before and after using the toilet.

Movement around the farm -

- It is essential that we must all keep 1 metre plus apart from one another at all times.
- People attending the sessions will only use the roundhouse and compost toilets in the learning area.
- We will be in the roundhouse at times but not for the whole day.
- Masks can be worn but are not compulsory as the room will be ventilated and we will stay 2 metres apart.
- We may at times cook together in the roundhouse. In this case each person will have their own table and equipment and will wear gloves when touching food. Only one person will be cooking at the hob or doing the washing up at any time.
- Please be aware that if the weather is looking bad it is likely we will be in the round house for a few hours so if you are uncomfortable with this you may choose not to attend.
- If the weather is looking particularly bad for the whole day we may cancel the session. You will be notified by text on the Thursday before.

What will I need to bring for the day?

We ask that you bring your own (gardening) gloves from home if you have any and if not, we can provide disposable gloves. Wear lots of warm, waterproof clothes as we will be outdoors a lot and indoors will be well ventilated and possibly cold at times.

Other info:

- If you will struggle to afford the fuel costs to get to the farm let us know and we may be able to help you out.
- We may request you come with support if your needs are high. We may also suggest alternative services for you to attend which cater for greater needs.
- We meet at the Roundhouse at The Farm's main Denny Lane site. There's plenty of parking available inside The Farm entrance. Just follow the signs past the polytunnels to the Roundhouse area, once you've arrived.

How do I register?

If you have read through the information and would like to register please make sure you fill out our registration form

Once you have registered we will contact you and invite you to join the group if a space is available. Please do not attend a session until we have contacted you with a start date. Please be aware it could take a week or two from when you filled out the form. You are welcome to try a session to see if it is for you before committing to more but please let us know if you are unable to attend or need to stop coming so we can open the space up to someone else.

Thank you from all of us at The Community Farm.

For any questions regarding Wild Steps, please contact Jason, the course facilitator, directly via email <u>wildsteps@thecommunityfarm.co.uk</u>