

WINTER TERM 1 2024

Update from the farm

We hope you have all enjoyed your summer break. We are looking forward to welcoming all our farm assistants back to the farm.

Over the summer we had three open afternoons which provided a taster for the service we provide. These were very well supported and provided much needed funds to help develop the farm further. If you would like to hold an event to raise funds for the farm here is the link to our Just Giving Page [provide link]

We do try to ensure that all relevant staff in your setting are kept up to date. If there is someone else that needs to be sent this information, please let us know their email address.

Staff updates

Penny Gibbons – Penny who is currently an Occupational Therapy Assistant has now qualified as an Occupational Therapist and will be working full time from September.

New Animals at the farm

We have 8 new Silkie chickens who are settling in well and we hope will soon be laying lots of eggs!

We are expecting four baby pygmy goats very soon. They will be joining our current goats Bob and Mabel.

Occupational Therapy Assessments

We are continuing to offer occupational therapy assessments in a non-clinical environment.

Assessments are carried out from non-standardised clinical observations made as the individual participate in farm activities.

Performance is observed in the following areas;

- Fine and gross motor skills
- Independence skills
- Sensory processing

- Attention
- Behaviour
- Social participation

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Assessments will include.

- home and education provider questionnaire
- 5 one hour sessions & 1 consultation at the end of assessment period
- OT will assess if a sensory assessment is required. If so a SPM2 will be carried out
- Occupational therapy report and recommendations

Why choose us?

- The Farm is a unique environment. It is a relaxed, informal and friendly place to be, surrounded by nature and animals.
- Our unique environment provides the opportunity for the individual to feel calm and relaxed during their assessment, where their activities have a purpose and are meaningful to them.
- Assessments are informal, flexible and tailored to the individual's needs.
- Our assessments are completed over a 5 week period allowing individuals to develop a rapport with the staff and to become comfortable in the setting.
- All of our Occupational Therapists are registered with the HCPC the RCOT and are experienced working with people of all ages.

If you would like to book or discuss our OT assessments for a young person you support, please get in touch!

Safeguarding visits

If you would like to make a visit to the farm for safeguarding purposes, please make an appointment for either the week beginning 16th September or 21st October 2024.

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Documents

The following documents are available on our website please see link below:

- Staff DBS log
- Risk Assessment Policy
- Safeguarding
- Letter of Assurance
- Insurance Policy

2024 Timetable

Our timetable for this year is available to view on our website. Please see link below:

[2024 Timetable](#)

Staff contact details

Directors

Amy Boyce DSL- Lead OT - amy.boyce@dedhamtherapyfarm.org.uk

Megan Dack DSL - Business Manager - megan.dack@dedhamtherapyfarm.org.uk

Sara Marshall – Animal Care & Finance Manager sara.marshall@dedhamtherapyfarm.org.uk

Administration

Angela Baker - Administrator - admin@dedhamtherapyfarm.org.uk

Occupational Therapists

Fleur Parks Lead OT maternity cover- fleur.parks@dedhamtherapyfarm.org.uk

Paul Bloomfield Lead OT Maternity cover– paul.bloomfield@dedhamtherapyfarm.org.uk

Penny Gibbons – penny.gibbons@dedhamtherapyfarm.org.uk

NEWSLETTER



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Occupational Therapy Assistants

Tom Clapson- DDSL tom.clapson@dedhamtherapyfarm.org.uk

Sharon Macdonald - sharon.macdonald@dedhamtherapyfarm.org.uk

Hayley Barker – hayley.barker@dedhamtherapyfarm.org.uk

Savanna Edwards – savanna.edwards@dedhamtherapyfarm.org.uk

Amy Series – amy.series@dedhamtherapyfarm.org.uk

Animal Care

Sally Hayes - Animal Care Supervisor - animalcare@dedhamtherapyfarm.org.uk

Marnie Carr – Animal Care Assistant

Mitchell Towler – Animal Care Assistant