



Group Booking Information for Group Leaders

For school, childcare, or summer camp groups – or **any group with 10 or more participants** and those requiring supervision – we ask that you **book ahead** as there is a maximum capacity of visitors for the farm and goat petting area.

Please note: During busy times, and if multiple groups visit at the same time, the group which has booked a day/time in advance will have priority for their visit. Groups that have not booked in advance may have to wait to visit with the animals and may not be able to visit the goat petting area.

TO BOOK: Please contact the farm by email at bhcfvictoria@gmail.com to book your visit at least **48 hours** in advance of your visit. Please note that your booking will be confirmed via email or by phone, otherwise it is not valid. Visit our group bookings page for more information: <https://beaconhillchildrensfarm.ca/group-visits/>

For group supervision, we recommend the following adult to child ratios:
1:6 for pre-school - grade 5 (age 2-10) / 1:10 for grade 6 - grade 12 (age 11-18)

The farm runs solely on donations, which help to keep the animals fed, housed and cared for. This year's **suggested donation amounts are \$7 per adult and \$6 per child**, however any amount that your group can give is greatly appreciated.

Cash, debit or credit are accepted at the front gate. Donations can be made by credit card over the phone in advance of your visit by calling us at 250-381-2532, or you can donate to us online via our Go Fund Me campaign on our website. If you plan to donate by cheque, please make cheques payable to "Beacon Hill Children's Farm Society".

Farm Rules for Visiting Groups

Please remember you are visiting the animals' home. They need to be treated with kindness and respect. Please help us keep the farm and the goat petting area calm, quiet, and relaxed.

As a group leader, you are responsible for your group's behaviour. Farm staff will step in to remind you and your participants to follow these rules. If repeated intervention from our staff is necessary, the noise level is too high, or the animals are not treated with respect, your group may be asked to leave the goat petting area or the farm.

Please discuss the rules below with your group to ensure the safety of all animals and people:

Children must be supervised throughout their entire visit

- Groups must stay together with an adult supervising children while exploring the farm
- Direct adult supervision in small groups is required while inside the goat petting area

Please treat the animals with respect

- No feeding any of the animals
- No poking the animals with sticks or throwing objects at them
- No pulling or stepping on feathers

Use quiet voices at all times

- No yelling or shouting at the animals or other people
- Please do not loudly imitate the animals' voices

Walking feet only inside the farm

- No running, jumping, or chasing after any animal
- No climbing on fences or other structures

Please check in with a staff member before entering the goat petting area. We may need to split your group into smaller groups and stagger entry into the petting area.

Please obey the signage posted at the petting area gate and follow directions from our staff:

- Children must be accompanied and actively supervised by an adult
- Always show respect for the goats by using quiet voices, walking feet and gentle hands
- No picking up or restraining the goats
- No feeding the goats and please do not remove hay from the ground or the hay feeders
- No backpacks or human food inside the goat petting area
- No running, jumping, climbing on the rocks, or chasing the goats
- No playing with the water buckets
- No picking up, throwing or kicking the sawdust (it is the goats' bathroom!)

We thank you for teaching your group how to respect the animals and their home. We hope your trip to the farm is fun and educational. Please don't hesitate to ask Farm Staff any questions your group may have about the animals or the farm!