

Growing Care Farming





Commissioning and Care Farming in Practice

Mark Coulman – Director
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Engaging with young people and adults on our working farm, empowering them to develop skills to enrich their learning, wellbeing and social life



**Hall
Farm
Eastoft**

What is care farming?

Care farming is the therapeutic use of farming practices – where young people and adults regularly attend the care farm as part of a structured health or social care, rehabilitation or specialist educational program.



Who benefits from care farming?

- Adults and children who need support with their mental health
- People who are socially isolated or who have complex social needs
- Adults and children with learning disabilities and autism
- Children who struggle to engage with mainstream education

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Here at Hall Farm Eastoft we provide a range of bespoke activities to enable adults and children to improve well-being, self-confidence, self-esteem and develop essential social and emotional skills

Learning how to handle our animals helps adults and children to understand the importance of care, quiet and team work to provide a healthy and calm environment for our alpacas, chickens and pigs

Helping in our garden area helps adults and children to understand the importance of healthy eating, how to grow food, and how to work with others to develop their social and emotional skills

Accessing the natural environment, either by learning about our farm activities or by understanding how nature works is known to help adults and children understand and manage their thoughts, feelings and behaviour

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- How we engage
- How we ensure quality
- How we measure impact
- How we are funded

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How we engage



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We were impressed at the set up of the venue and the commitment / passion of the staff to support a range of youngsters and needs. Since working with the care farm we have witnessed the enthusiasm of the youngsters that are lucky to attend - their willingness to share their experiences with staff in school and the knowledge that they are gaining about the workings of a farm.

Moreover, communication between the school and the care farm has been crucial in providing an outline of the young person and their needs and our joint target setting for them, to support them in developing skills that will be vital for their future.

The support staff, that have attended the sessions, speak highly of the professionalism of the staff and their interactions with the students. The students return to school very calm and ready to engage in learning following their visits and experiences with the animals that are there.



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Hall Farm provided us with a bespoke package to meet the needs of our pupils and enabled them to develop their confidence, resilience, team building as well as increasing their social and emotional skills.

This was provided by a team of excellent staff who were both caring and nurturing as well as skilled and knowledgeable in farming activities.

Behaviour &
Safeguarding Adviser

The pupils all made significant improvements during their time at the farm loving the activities and their time with the animals. One pupil was heard to say “It was the best thing he had ever done”. Another pupil aspires to work on a farm when he is older.



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Public money for public goods

Our new environmental land management system will be underpinned by natural capital principles, so that the benefits the natural environment provides for people that improve our mental and physical well-being wildlife are properly valued

Michael Gove



Charities



Pupil premium



Personal Health Budgets



Self funding

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