



Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Learning Trust

Risk Assessment for

Tortoise

Risk Assessment in relation to the care and maintenance of school tortoise

Reference number	DUR3347026
Assessor	Tasmin Ferris
Date completed	17/09/26
Review Schedule	Annually
Review date	17/09/27
Approved date	17/09/26
Approved by	Tasmin Ferris
Affected site(s)	St Mary's C of E Primary School Long Newton Stockton on Tees (TS21 1DL)

Hazards and controls

 Hazard: Animals (Bites)	
Tortoise may bite	
Who can be harmed/how?	Controls in place
All Staff, Student / Pupil Risk of injury/damage to skin/tissue from animal bites leading to potential infection if untreated.	 Adequate supervision provided Children supervised around tortoise at all times  Appropriate first aid provided

 Hazard: Contamination of Food Products	
Food for the tortoise is kept in an appropriate environment to avoid contamination	
Who can be harmed/how?	Controls in place
Tortoise Risk of ill-health to tortoise due to poor hygiene control.	 All Staff Trained In Good Housekeeping Techniques All staff are trained in good housekeeping techniques & the standards expected in the workplace  Food - cleaning schedules/procedures in place  Foods Used In Strict Date Order Foods used in strict date order (stock rotation) and out of date items disposed of

 Hazard: Fire	
Tortoise will be taken outside by the School Office Manager in the event of a fire alarm if it is safe to do so	
Who can be harmed/how?	Controls in place
All Staff, Tortoise Risk of injury caused by naked flames, faulty electrical equipment, arson, explosion or chemicals.	 Fire exits and fire exit signage maintained Escape routes maintained. Clear plan for evacuating tortoise if safe to do so.  Fire training carried out Fire training (including evacuation) carried out at Induction and refreshed periodically



Hazard: Poor Hygiene (Infection)

Risk of bacterial transmission from handling the tortoise or its enclosure

Who can be harmed/how?	Controls in place
All Staff, Student / Pupil Risk of ill health/disease due to exposure to infectious agents/pathogens from poor hygiene practice	 Adequate supervision provided Children always supervised by an adult when around tortoise.  Good hand washing/hygiene procedures observed Hands must be washed after handling tortoise or its enclosure.  Hygiene procedures in place and followed  Minimal handling of tortoise by pupils  Adults to handle tortoise wherever possible. Children will not handle the tortoise unless supervised by an adult



Hazard: Waste Disposal

Waste from tortoise enclosure should be disposed of correctly

Who can be harmed/how?	Controls in place
All Staff, Student / Pupil Risk of illness due to contact with tortoise waste.	 All Staff Trained In Good Housekeeping Techniques All staff are trained in good housekeeping techniques & the standards expected in the workplace  Correct disposal of contaminated material/waste < Contaminated material is disposed of in accordance with current guidelines.  Good hand washing/hygiene procedures observed Hands must be washed after handling tortoise or its enclosure.  Waste bins provided within the premises

Assessor's signature: Tasmin Ferris

Approved by signature: Tasmin Ferris