

Planning Statement/Management Plan

Farm Life West Cumbria is a new Community Interest Company. The service we wish to offer is for children and young people who are accessing specialised education due to their Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) to spend regular time on a local sheep farm and participate in farming / outdoor activities / spending time with animals facilitated by a qualified teacher who is also a farmer as part of their school curriculum.

We have free rental of a piece of unused farmland from the farm owner (director's father) and wish to erect a garden room which we plan to use as an office and meeting room. This will not be connected to mains electric or water. We will use an existing utility room on site for hand washing / toilets. We would like to purchase and erect a wooden barn on site for additional animals at some point in the future.

Visits would take place in term time only and on Wednesdays and Thursdays. No more than six children or young people per visit. Children and young people would arrive on site via a school minibus (only one vehicle per day). We would be fully accessible for all service users.

Personnel involved have enhanced DBS and Level 3 First Aid training, there is a safeguarding policy in place, business insurance and risk assessments for all activities.

We would like to offer this service, dependant on planning permission, from 01.09.2023. We have already received £20,000 of grant funding from local grant funders, including County Council, and have two local schools who have provisionally booked sessions. This service is dependent on the relevant planning permissions for change of use of this piece of unused farmland to change of use for educational purposes.

Farm Life West Cumbria

21.06.2023