

Bringing learning to life at Cogges Manor Farm

COGGES

Cogges Manor Farm in Witney, West Oxfordshire is a special place. Rich in history, the site appears in the Domesday Book of 1086 with a listed manor house dating back to the 13th Century and 17th and 18th Century farm buildings.

The story of Cogges is an interesting tale involving moats, wool merchants, archbishops and of course farming. This heritage makes Cogges Manor Farm a popular place to visit (animals to feed, an adventure playground to play on and a great café to relax in), to film (Cogges is the location for Downton Abbey's Yew Tree Farm), to celebrate (the barns are popular with weddings and parties) and most importantly – to learn.

COGGES



Children were highly engaged, and enjoyed every bit

The Schools Education Programme

Cogges Manor Farm offers an exciting year round Schools Education Programme. There are five different programmes covering different age ranges from the Early Years Foundation Stage through to Key Stage 2. The programmes are as follows:

- 1. Farming for Food**
- 2. Time Travellers** – this covers Saxons and Victorians
- 3. Wildlife and Growing** – seasonally tailored
- 4. Old MacDonald** – Story and Rhyme – Half Day session
- 5. Little Red Hen and Farmyard Friends** – Half Day session



National Curriculum

Each subject area is led by our trained Educational Facilitators and volunteers and has been carefully constructed to work in line with the National Curriculum covering key subject areas including history, geography, mathematics, literacy, citizenship, science and design.

Our aim is to harness the unique environment at Cogges Manor Farm and create interactive learning experiences to inspire children of all ages.

“Children were highly engaged, and enjoyed every bit...I don't know why we haven't been before!”

Francesca Jenkins, EYFS Coordinator St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Oxford

“The activities were perfectly pitched and well run and just the right length of time to keep the kids on track and engaged. They LOVED the puppet show at the end”

Richeldis Castree, The Blakes School, Witney

Farming for Food



National Curriculum areas covered: science, mathematics, history, literacy, and design.

Aim: To enhance the children's understanding of farming and the provenance of healthy and environmentally sustainable food production.

Learning outcomes:

- Develop a knowledge of farming systems and processes, both past and present.
- Know where and how a variety of ingredients are grown, reared and processed.
- Appreciate the wide variety of issues that influence the decisions farmers make.
- Understand their own role as a consumer and reflect on their food decisions.

Description:

This is an in-depth programme delivering a 360-degree appreciation of bringing a farmed product to market. Children are hands-on throughout the day and involved from the start of the farming process where they see where the produce is grown or reared, consider different produce that comes from a farm,, prepare a product, design the packaging, and end the day with a final finished product which is market ready.

Please note: This is a full day session £78 per group of 12 students, maximum 5 groups.

Ideal for:



Time Travellers Saxons and/or Victorians

National Curriculum areas covered: history, science, maths and geography.

Aim: To immerse and engage children in our historical past. To leave them with a feeling of awe and understanding at how our ancestors lived their everyday lives.

Learning outcomes:

- A greater understanding of everyday life in historical times.
- An appreciation of how life was different then compared to now
- how buildings were constructed
- where and how water was collected
- how people cooked and what they ate.

Description:

This is an interactive and lively history based session, which keeps children fully engaged. The programme is flexible and can be tailored to focus on the Saxon or Victorian period as well as on local history if required. Please ask on booking.

Please note: This is designed to be a full day session, but there is flexibility and we are happy to try and work around your timings if required. The cost of the programme is £78 per group of 12 children, maximum 6 groups.

Ideal for:



Wildlife and Growing

National Curriculum areas covered: citizenship, maths, science and geography.

Aim: To establish in children an understanding and appreciation of the natural environment around them.

Learning outcomes:

- To have a greater understanding of local wildlife. See first hand where different animals live and what they eat.
- To look closely at different plants and understand their life cycle and what they need to grow.
- Learn how to plant a seedling, study a pollinator and make some good quality compost to feed their plants or in the Autumn, harvest vegetables from the garden

Description:

Children will take a tour of the whole site at Cogges Manor Farm and will become nature detectives – seeking out animal habitats, learning about plants and taking a hands-on role in planting their seedling and making their own compost. This is a fun, outdoor session which can be tailored to the different seasons of the year.

Please note: This is designed to be a full day session, but there is flexibility and we are happy to try and work around your timings if required. The cost of the programme is £78 per group of 12 children. Maximum 6 groups.

Ideal for:



Old MacDonald – Story and Rhyme

National Curriculum areas covered: literacy (including phonics), maths science, geography and history.

Aim: To give younger children a fun and interactive tour of the farm. Learning through stories and rhymes about the different animals and the different aspects of farming.

Learning outcomes:

- To identify and learn about the different animals at Cogges Manor Farm.
- To get a first hand experience of a farm/agricultural environment.
- To enhance a love of reading and language through stories and rhymes associated with the animals on the farm with a focus on Old MacDonald had a Farm.

Description:

Children take a tour of the whole of the site at Cogges Manor farm and are introduced to and learn about the different animals. They take part in stories, songs and rhymes associated with the animals and their journey is tied together through Old MacDonald had a farm.

This is a fun and stimulating session and brings a host of key learning areas to life.

Please note: This is a half day session and costs £52 per group of up to 12 children. Maximum 5 groups.

Ideal for:



Little Red Hen and Farmyard Friends

National Curriculum areas covered: literacy (including phonics), science, mathematics and history, citizenship/PSHE.

Aim: To give younger children an understanding of where food comes from and how it is made.

Learning outcomes:

- To experience and interact first hand with the whole process from seed through to a baked loaf of bread.
- To appreciate and participate in all the stages of food production from holding the seed, seeing where it is planted, grinding flour and baking bread.

Description:

Based on the story of Little Red Hen, children look at growing from a seed, grinding flour and baking bread. This is a lively and interactive session where all children are involved.

Please note: This is a half day session and costs £52 per group of up to 12 children. Maximum 5 groups.

Ideal for:



Getting the best out of your visit to Cogges

Logistics

- Please consult your confirmation letter for arrival and departure times. Please contact us if you would like to discuss these times.
- Your class will spend the whole day on-site. They will take part in a sessions led by our freelancers.
- Cogges Manor Farm is signposted as Cogges Manor Farm Museum from the main road. Coaches can park in the main car park and there is a short walk down a pedestrian walkway to get to the Farm. Please read the Risk Assessment closely to ensure the safety of your group while embarking and disembarking.
- Facilities are available for your group to eat their own packed lunches. Picnic tables are available in the Orchard and there are also tables under cover in front of the large barn. Our coffee shop is open for teachers to buy from Tuesday – Friday until early November and from late March.
- The shop on site is available throughout the year. You will need to schedule an extra 15 minutes per class if you wish to use the shop. Please inform staff before you come if you require us to do this for your class.
- Please ensure that any waste is disposed of in the bins provided.
- Please ensure you have divided your classes into groups of 12 maximum before arrival. It will save time if groups are already identified, and teachers will then need to choose which activity children undertake in their group.

To ensure the smooth operation of the visit

- It is important that your group dresses appropriately and wears sensible shoes. This includes adults. Please ensure appropriate protection is provided for children in the event of a very wet or very sunny day.
- Read any appropriate Risk Assessments and contact the Operations Manager to arrange a Pre-visit.

- Hand washing and toilet facilities are not specifically for schools and are open to the public. Please ensure that children are supervised at all times when visiting the toilet facilities.
- You are responsible for maintaining class discipline, with the support of the on-site Freelancers and volunteers.
- We are a site that is open to the public between March and November. Please talk to the children beforehand and emphasise the standard of behaviour expected of them in a public space.

During your visit:

- Bringing along a digital camera will be a useful way of documenting the day for teachers and children

To facilitate learning

- Please discuss with us beforehand if any of your pupils have any special educational needs to enable us to make appropriate provision if possible.
- Please discuss the visit with all your adult helpers beforehand. Taking the time to explain to accompanying adults what is expected of them will help the children get even more out of the visit.

Please ask adult helpers to:

- show an interest in the session to encourage children to listen,
- to refrain from interrupting the session unless necessary
- turn mobile phones to silent mode (we understand if people need to take calls, but the ring tones can be very distracting!)
- remain with the group and help make sure that children are safe at all times

We hope you enjoy your visit.

Please ring us on (01993) 772602 if you have any questions. We'd love your school to visit us.

The staff at Cogges Manor Farm feel passionately about educating and inspiring the next generations. We believe that our Schools Education Programme has something for everyone and we feel strongly about including all children in our sessions so that they feel excited and engaged with what they have just learned.

We understand that your school terms are busy, but our sessions cover many aspects of the National Curriculum and if time is tight, many can be tailored to your needs. We are open for school visits year round, so you are not tied to our public visiting timetable.

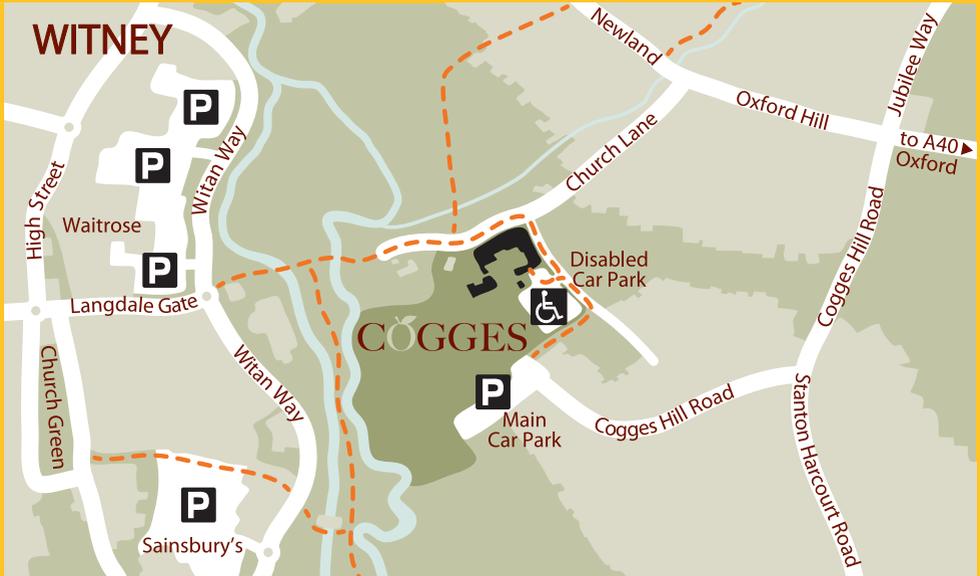
Please get in touch with us to discuss how we can give your children a visit they won't forget.

“It was a lovely trip, the children were wowed by how much they found out. The activities were engaging and exciting and we had lots of fun. Thank you to all the staff they were great and very helpful. We will definitely plan on coming back next year.”

Sophie Monk, Wheatley CE Primary School



“The activities were engaging and exciting and we had lots of fun”



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