(Assume parent/carer sending email)

Dear Head teacher of [School name],

It has been brought to my/our attention that you intend to visit a farm as a way of enhancing the topic that Year\_/class\_ are currently learning. I/We can appreciate that real-life experiences are an important part of school life and really help children to make the connection between what they are learning inside the classroom and the wider world. However, I am /we are writing to ask you to consider vegan-inclusive practice when delivering this topic. My/Our child, [Child’s name], is vegan and I/we would like my/our child to be able to take part in this learning, but in accordance with their beliefs.

You may, or may not, know, that veganism is a protected philosophy and way of living which seeks to exclude – as far as is possible and practicable – all forms of exploitation of, and cruelty to, animals for food, clothing or any other purpose. From our/my perspective, non-human animals used in the farm are being exploited; therefore, our/my child [insert name] will not feel comfortable taking part in visiting a farm, any pre-learning activities prior to the visit, or any recount work undertaken afterwards. Consequently, the planned use of a farm visit is both excluding to my/our child and extremely upsetting for (him/her/them).

**Animal Rights**

Non-human animals who would naturally roam their habitats and engage in a variety of wonderful, natural behaviours including socialising with others of their species, foraging and forming families are completely denied the opportunity to have any of these experiences when they are used as commodities in the farm industry*.*

Non-human animals are sentient beings who share this planet with us; they have every right to their freedom and deserve our respect.

**Is it really educational?**

By visiting farmed animals, you are not providing an honest learning experience. Petting farms often claim that their existence is geared towards educating children about other animals. However, there is a huge contradiction in the reality of how these farmed animals are being cared for in the petting pen and what happens to them in the wider workings of the farm, including the omission of forced impregnation, maternal separation and the slaughterhouse.

As the Department for Education advises the avoidance of promoting a particular view to pupils, I/we would prefer it if you reconsidered the visit to a farm and that, instead, you provided a balanced, factual account of the topic, in line with the legal duties on impartiality.

**Alternatives**

So that the children do not miss out on an exciting experience, they could take nature walks to see other non-human animals in their natural habitats or visit a sanctuary. You could arrange a non-human animal fancy dress day, watch a great documentary, create your own free-living space or you could arrange talks from an animal charity such as [The Vegan Society](https://www.vegansociety.com/lifestyle/vegan-inclusive-education) or [Animal Aid](https://www.animalaid.org.uk/education/request-school-speaker/).

I/We have not made this request lightly, as I/we know how hard you work and how far in advance you must plan your lessons and activities. For more information you can request free CPD training on vegan inclusion from The Vegan Society or visit The Vegan Society’s [Education](https://www.vegansociety.com/lifestyle/vegan-inclusive-education) page.

A concise guide for educators on how to provide a vegan-inclusive education can be found [here](https://www.vegansociety.com/sites/default/files/uploads/downloads/TVS_Education%20Booklet_A5_DIGITAL.pdf).

Thank you for reading this letter. I/We would be more than happy to work in partnership with you on any issues raised because of my/our request.

Yours sincerely,

[Sender name]