



## **Support Worker Guidance for supporting a Client at SweetTree Fields Farm or The Care Farm Project**

Thank you for accompanying your client to our Project. Whilst you are with us, please can you ensure you help us by following the support Worker guidance below:

**Your client will be taking part in practical, physical tasks that are often outdoors and involve dirt or handling soil or animals.** It is mucky work but your client wants to be here and your reactions to new experiences will influence theirs. We strive to find the positives in any task and situation, so we ask that you do the same to encourage your client. We appreciate that you may have fears of animals and maybe even mud(!) but please keep these to yourself and find the positives with us.

**All SweetTree Farming For All projects are No Phone zones for staff.** Your client needs your attention whilst you're here. If you do need to make a work related call please let us know you need to remove yourself briefly and we will look after your client.

**Often support workers also enjoy the activities that we deliver for the client.** We are happy for you to take part alongside your client as this often encourages them to take part. However, your priority is to support THEM to take part so if there are not enough tools, materials etc.. then please ensure you are supporting your client in the activity and not doing it for them. Some tasks can take a lot longer for some clients, but again, encouraging a client to complete a task that takes them 10 minutes when you could have done it in 1 is all the more rewarding for all parties involved when they finally manage it.

**Be proactive in helping SweetTree Farming For All staff engage your client.** You know your client well. Please assist us if there is something we can do to make the activity more accessible or enjoyable for them. Please use whatever methods you normally use to encourage participation eg verbal praise, related questions, discussions about related topics and ideas for other activities they might enjoy.

**Help to uphold Farm Rules** e.g. checking to make sure your client stays with the group/washes their hands before eating, and if your client does walk off to make sure you stay with them at all times as our site is large and there are lots of hiding places.

**Please enjoy the day also!** At SweetTree Farming For All we are privileged enough to be able to do some very fun activities and we hope you enjoy your time with us too.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to working alongside you.

**The SweetTree Farming For All Team**