

# Magdalen

## Introduction to Smallholding

The first in a series of courses aimed at the novice or those thinking of setting up their own smallholding. This course will give an insight into keeping livestock such as cattle, sheep, pigs and poultry; covering the basic care and equipment requirements in each case along with land management techniques

Minimum Group Size: 4

Maximum Group Size: 8

Cost: £69 per person

Includes: Notes, light refreshments and simple homemade lunch.

*Course Format:* This course is based in the classroom but also out on The Magdalen Project 132 Acre Organic Farm. it is advised that attendees where suitable outdoor clothing & footwear.

*Tutor Details:* Nick Cox

Nick has been involved with The Magdalen Project for a number of years including periods of direct responsibility for the farm and land. Nick has extensive livestock experience including pigs, poultry, cattle, sheep and alpacas and as a result has a great knowledge of what livestock suits what environment.



# Introduction to Smallholding

## Structure:

### Introduction

*Classroom*

- Expectations of the day
- The Magdalen Project and what we are achieving with our smallholding
- Housekeeping elements
- Health & Safety aspects – animals, machinery, medicines, chemicals

### Legislation (Paperwork)

*Classroom*

- Movement books or movement licenses
- Holding Numbers
- Flock/Herd Numbers & Trading Standards
- Registering with a Vet and Trading Standards
- Public Liability Insurance

### Introduction to Livestock

*Classroom*

- What breed
- Pedigree stock
- Charts of breeds with relevant information
- Where to source your livestock – private, through breeders and markets
- Intentions of keeping livestock – when will livestock be ready for slaughter
- Associated Associations and relevant contacts

### Meeting the livestock

*Outside*

- Equipment – Adequate fencing, housing, feeding equipment, veterinary equipment
- Types of feed
- Housing
- Signs of good and poor health
- Breeding – signs of heat, service vs AI, number of times to service, signs of birthing and what to do.
- Medicines and Medicine books
- Identification
- Land issues pertaining to keeping livestock

### Conclusion

- Question & Answer session
- Evaluation of the day and in meeting expectations
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