

Reptile handling permission form



Name of child..... Date

Important information concerning your forthcoming visit from CJS EXOTICS.

The Department of Health has issued advice that will be relevant to your visit.

“To avoid the possible risk of infection, the Chief Medical Officer has issued the following advice.

People at increased risk of infection or at risk from serious complications of salmonellosis should avoid contact with reptiles.

This includes children less than 5 years old, pregnant women, the elderly and those with impaired immunity.

Infants under one year old are at particular risk from direct and indirect contact with reptiles.

Always wash hands with hot, soapy water after handling reptiles, reptile cages and equipment, and stools from reptiles.

Children should be supervised whilst handling reptiles to prevent hand and mouth contact”

Both the Department of Health and our own vet point out that no reptile can be guaranteed salmonella-free.

Nine out of ten reptiles carry salmonella, though they show no symptoms,

and treatments to remove the salmonella bacteria are not effective.

In any human/animal contact, care must be taken to prevent any hand to mouth contact

until hands have been thoroughly washed with hot soapy water.

We have always stressed this at CJS, and have never encountered any problems regarding salmonella infection, even with young children.

Handwashing facilities are available.

If you DO wish the under 5's in your care to have the opportunity to touch a reptile,

ensure good supervision – sufficient to prevent hand to mouth contact before washing and obtain parental consent if you feel that is necessary.

Scratches and bites are possible although we have measures in place for this not to happen, and we have yet not had any cases of this being an issue.

Please confirm that you are happy for all the children attending the sessions below

to be given the opportunity to touch a reptile in their education session at CJS EXOTICS.

Parents/guardian name

Signature
