

#### **Stay Safe**

Personal hygiene is important when working with animals. Avoid eating and drinking while you are working with the calves.

#### Wash your hands

Make sure you are careful to wash your hands **before** and **after** you have been in contact with the calves:

- Rinse your hands with running water.
- Apply soap and lather vigorously.
- Dry hands thoroughly with fresh paper towel or air dry.

It is preferable that you do not 'KISS' the calves - keep personal hygiene in mind!

#### **Facilities**

Keep your calves safe: What do they need? What sort of facilities do your calves require to keep safe, warm and healthy?

Use these learnings as part of your research.

## Please ask your farmer to write down the feeding rations for the calves...

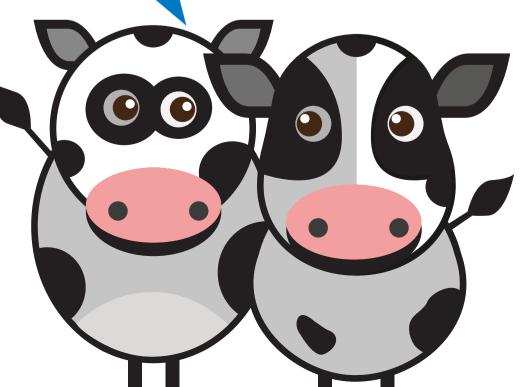
- Milk powder formula \_\_\_\_\_\_
- Water requirements \_\_\_\_\_\_
- Calf meal ration \_\_\_\_\_\_\_
- Farmer contact number

NOTE: If a vet is required, approval of vet expenses must be authorised by calling 03 5659 4219.

#### **Facilities for Calf Rearing**

- Fenced, secure area (calves don't need access to a paddock).
- Protected area that is warm and dry (covered).
- Access to clean water.
- Storage area for supplies.
- Separate facilities removed from any other farm animals.
- Clean of rubbish (remember the calves will chew anything!).

It is important to keep the calves in a similar environment with the same feeding regime that they have had at home.





# 19alfi

If you have any questions or concerns about your calves please give your farmer a call!



### **Emergency procedures**

The order of contact for schools in case of animal husbandry questions are:

- 1. Farmer
- 2. Project Manager/s
- 3. Veterinary Surgeon

# What's normal?

Eyes Bright, alert

Not sunken

50 breaths per minute for 14-day-old calves

Breathing 37 breaths per minute for 35-day-old calves

Calm, rhythmic breathing, not laboured No rattles, gurgles or raspy sounds

Ears Perky

Not droopy

Muzzle Warm (not hot) and wet to touch

Coat Clean and shiny

Quickly returns to a flat position when you pinch a bit of skin near the ribs and twist it

90 degrees

Navel Dry

No signs of swelling

Behaviour Running around the pen

Bellowing, particularly close to feed times

Strong suck, aggressive feeder Sucking items in its environment

Resting in a curled position with feet tucked under and heads back along the body, often

about an hour after feed time

Gets up immediately with prodding

Calves that are ill will be slow to rise

Manure Soft but formed

Colour will vary with diet from milky to

Free from blood

Not watery or very loose

Not hard

No straining when manure is passed

Holstein/Jersey 0.1-0.2 kg/day at 1-2 weeks Growth Rates 0.5-0.7 kg/day at 3-5 weeks