# THE RANCH



Soon, I will be visiting The Ranch
On The Wild Side in Weymouth.
This is a Reptile Education Centre
and the team call it 'Unit 21'.
This is because that is the building
number at Base Point Centre.
This is were lots of different types
of creatures live that need warm
temperatures.













I may feel anxious about going somewhere new. This is ok, and I am able to tell the grown ups this.

The Ranch have helped many people feel less nervous and I will be ok.

The person that takes me to Unit 21 will be someone I already know and will not leave unless I agree.

## The Ranch on the Wild Side Directions to Our Off Site Unit







The Ranch Weymouth Interactive Reptile Education is 'By Prior Appointment Only.'



This means it will never be busy or crowded.
All of the people who will be there will be part
of The Ranch Team and other young people
just like me.

#### This is how it looks outside.







This is the address

Unit 21
Basepoint Business Centro
Jubilee Close
Weymouth
Dt4 7BS



### **Meet Our Animal Ambassadors**





Education Facilitator



All of our animals are amazing educators, however due to their gentle temperaments and calm natures we have named some as ambassadors.

These animals have have a proven history of showcasing the very best things about their species.



**REGGIE** 

**GHOST** 

Most of our animal ambassadors were previously pets that their owners could no longer care for, so they are animals that have always lived in captivity and are comfortable with humans. We spend months, often years working with each individual animal before they become animal ambassadors. Our staff and the animals have built up a trust and knowledge of any signs of stress or discomfort. We work very hard to provide a safe space for everyone, both humans and critters.











At The Wild Side Unit there will be lots of different animals. The animals are gentle and are used to being near people.

Some of the animals may seem a little strange, but they are all very interesting.

There will be snakes, lizards, geckos, even frogs and toads, tortoises, a big friendly salad eating iguana called Reggie.

There will even be some interesting critters and bugs.

All of the animals will be kept inside their homes, behind glass.

We can look at the animals. This will be ok.

We might be able to help water and feed some of the reptiles. The Ranch team will help me. This will be ok. If I don't want to feed the animals, I can watch someone else feed them. This will be ok.

Or I can say I do not want to watch.

At The Ranch, I might be able to touch some of the reptiles, snakes or bugs.

This will be ok.

If I don't want to touch the animals, I can watch someone else do it.

That will be ok too.

Sometimes the reptiles and snakes will let us stroke and hold them, I can be shown how to do this if I want to.

If I don't want to touch the reptiles, this will be ok too. I can sit and watch.











It is normal and ok to feel a little anxious about meeting creatures for the first time.

I can trust that The Ranch Team will listen to me if I am worried and help me to feel more confident and comfortable around the reptiles.

The Ranch Team meet lots of Children and Young People and are happy to allow me to touch and hold animals gently and safely, at my own pace. I can take my time.

If I feel that I am not able to say that I am worried, that is ok. The Ranch Team are experienced with both verbal and non verbal people like me - I can use hand signals to indicate my level of comfort with the animals.

I will not have to touch or hold any animals unless I want to.

There are also some very interesting creatures to just watch from outside of









### THE RANCH



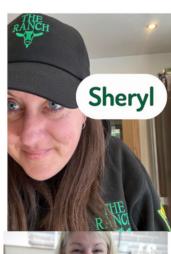
Toni

**James** 



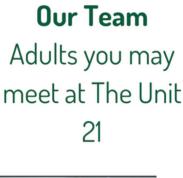
Elle







Gemma





Tree







Shannon







Sometimes there may be other young people like me visiting

The Ranch on The Wild Side Unit 21.

They may greet me and say 'Hi' or 'Hello'.

I can greet them back, but I do not have to if I am shy, the

other young people may also feel this way.

At the Unit 21 I will meet a team member from The Ranch, this person will be someone I have met before at the field site or if I have not met them before, they will tell me their name.



I can ask this person to help me, and also any of the other grown ups at The Ranch to help me, or take me to a quiet space if I feel I need a break.

At The Ranch On The Wild Side there will always be trusted adults to help me or if I am feeling unsure.

I will be able to know who they are by their staff picture on their lanyard and their Ranch tops.

I will be safe and only people allowed at The Ranch will be there.