



EXCURSION GUIDE

Thank you for choosing David Fleay Wildlife Park for your school excursion. Students will experience Queensland's natural environment and cultural heritage through enjoyable and meaningful wildlife and conservation-focused activities. Our excursions feature environmental education activities linked with the Australian Curriculum, including topics such as habitats, animal adaptations and life cycles.

We are committed to providing a safe and supportive environment directed at ensuring the safety and wellbeing of children and young people visiting our venues. We adhere to the Child Protection Policy and Procedure (part of the Child and Youth Risk Management Strategy) for our venues to foster a safe and supportive environment for children and young people by identifying potential risks for harm and implementing strategies to minimise these risks. This is reviewed annually and is available to all clients upon request.



Photo: Jessica Rosewell © Qld Gov

CONTACT DETAILS

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BOOKING CONFIRMATION

Your booking confirmation contains your arrival and departure times, what to bring and excursion costs. You will receive a detailed itinerary on the day. Some of the activities on this itinerary are self-guided and children must be supervised. Care of students remains with the school at all times.

GROUP SIZE

We recommend that groups larger than 60 students break their visit over two days so that all students may access both the shows. The *Creatures of The Night* nocturnal presentation theatre seats 70 people only. The *Fleays in Flight* presentation seats 150 people.

A minimum number of 10 students is required to guarantee the group rate. We provide free entry for teachers accompanying the excursion as well supporting adults in line with the following ratio of supervision:

Free of Charge (FOC) Ratio for Teachers/Supervisors	FOC Ratio
Foundation – Year 3	1 FOC to 5 students
Years 4 – 6	1 FOC to 10 students
Years 7 – 12	1 FOC to 15 Students

TIME OF ACTIVITY

The start time for your activity is noted on the booking confirmation. Late arrival may result in an amendment to your excursion timetable or the activity being rescheduled for a later date. Please contact us if you are running late.

HOW TO GET THERE

The Park is located at the corner of West Burleigh Road and Loman Lane in Burleigh Heads, on Queensland's Gold Coast.

The Park is only two minutes from the Tallebudgera Creek Road turn-off on the Pacific Highway (exit 89) and 10 minutes from the Gold Coast Airport.

BUS PARKING

Large buses are able to park within the designated bus parks to drop students off. If additional parking is required, buses may park across vacant car spaces at the rear of the car park.



ACCESSIBILITY

The Park is suitable for wheelchairs with some assistance. There is accessible parking available in the car park.

GROUP MEETING AREA

The group meeting area is at the entrance to the Park, near Fleay's Cafe. Your group will be met by the Park Ranger who will welcome the group, explain your schedule and lead the group to an area which can be used as a base for the day.

ADVERSE WEATHER

In the event of adverse weather, activities may need to be altered, postponed or cancelled. Please encourage children/parents to pack a raincoat in case of wet weather.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

We suggest that teachers carry their own first-aid kit throughout their excursion, but there are first-aid stations around the park.

The Excursion Venue Risk Management Guidelines will be provided with your booking confirmation. For your safety, please ensure the attending teacher(s) and all other supervising adults are familiar with this information before your visit.

SUPERVISION

Please remember the Park Rangers are not responsible for supervising your class. Behaviour management is the responsibility of the attending teacher.

For some activities, Park Rangers will be showing live animals to support important themes such as wildlife conservation. Please ensure that the students and supporting adults are aware of this and have been briefed about what will occur. Please help the Park Rangers by supporting these key messages during the wildlife show.

If you are bringing extra supervisors/parents/helpers – due to space restrictions we regret that they may not accompany the class into the education room.

STANDARD OF BEHAVIOUR

Students must understand the standard of behaviour expected of them and why rules must be followed. Please ensure that children have an understanding of the following points before they visit the Park:

- Put all litter in the bins provided.
Litter can get into enclosures and harm animals.
- Keep quiet and do not bang on enclosures, shout or imitate animal sounds as this will scare the animals.
- Never feed the animals—they are provided with a balanced diet.
- Be considerate to others in the group and remain quiet while the Park Ranger is talking.
- Be aware that there are other visitors at the Park. Respect their needs too, so that everyone can have an enjoyable day.
- Follow your itinerary, particularly for the daily shows as these are public and must start/finish on time.
- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and running water after touching any animals or animal products in the presentations.
- Follow all safety directions for our wildlife shows and programs.

STAFF

Park Rangers delivering activities for students at the Park have been issued with a Positive Notice Blue Card for child related employment.



Photo: Jaime Kruusmaa © Qld Govt

PRE-VISIT OPTION

The Park is happy to provide free pre-visit tickets for teachers. Coming to the Park before your school's trip will allow you to plan your day more effectively. Please contact us to organise a visit.

OPENING HOURS

The park opens from 9.00am to 5.00pm seven days a week, every day of the year except Christmas Day and Anzac Day morning. Fleay's Cafe is open from 9.00am to 4.00pm. The nocturnal house is open from 10.30am to 5.00pm.

PURCHASING FOOD

Fleay's Cafe sells tea and coffee, cold drinks, sandwiches, some hot food, snacks and confectionary. Students wishing to visit Fleay's Cafe and purchase food/drinks will be given set times to visit, so as not to affect the lunch catering. Please speak to the Park Ranger about organising for students to visit Fleay's Cafe prior to your visit. Catering for your group can be arranged with at least two weeks' notice.

EATING FOOD AT THE PARK

Please be aware that there are many wild animals at the Park in addition to the exhibited animals. Feeding is not permitted and you must supervise students during their meal breaks to prevent food being given to the animals or left on the ground. Please ensure that students keep their bags zipped up to prevent wild animals from going through the contents of their bags.

PAYMENT

Payment can be accepted on the day of your excursion via Cash/Visa/MasterCard or an invoice can be sent to your school. Please advise us prior to your visit.

We hope you have an enjoyable visit to the Park.

We look forward to seeing you soon!



Photo: Robert Ashdown © Qld Gov

EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

Our school excursions feature environmental education activities linked with the Australian Curriculum, including topics such as habitats, animal adaptations and life cycles. Your students will experience Queensland's natural environment through educational talks, wildlife presentations, interactive experiences with native animals, and self-guided walks. We have programs for preschool to year five and activities can be tailored to suit your educational needs. Our activities include:

- Education talk with a Park Ranger
- Wildlife presentation
- Self-guided walk around the Park

Year Level	Activity Name	Australian Curriculum	Themes
Foundation	Basic Needs	Living things have basic needs, including food and water (ACSSU002)	Recognising the needs of living things in a range of situations such as pets at home, plants in the garden or plants and animals in bushland
Year 1	Fur Feathers Scales	Living things have a variety of external features (ACSSU017)	Describing the use of animal body parts for particular purposes such as moving and feeding
Year 1	Habitats	Living things live in different places where their needs are met (ACSSU211)	Exploring what happens when habitats change and some living things can no longer have their needs met
Year 2	Animal Offspring	Living things grow, change and have offspring similar to themselves (ACSSU030)	Exploring different characteristics of life stages in animals such as egg, caterpillar and butterfly
Year 2	David Fleay	The History of a significant person or part of the natural environment (ACHASSK044)	Investigating the history of a chosen person, building, site or landmark in the local community using sources and relating a story which these reveal about the past
Year 3	Living and Nonliving	Living things can be grouped on the basis of observable features and can be distinguished from non-living things (ACSSU044)	Recognising characteristics of living things such as growing, moving, sensitivity and reproducing
Year 4	Life Cycles	Living things have life cycles (ACSSU072)	Describing the stages of life cycles of different living things such as insects, birds, frogs and flowering plants
Year 5	Adaptations	Living things have structural features and adaptations that help them to survive in their environment (ACSSU043)	Describing and listing adaptations of living things suited for particular Australian environments

Photo: Robert Ashdown © Qld Gov

EXCURSION VENUE RISK MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

- **Insurance:** This venue has public-liability cover.
- **First aid:** Park Rangers at David Fleay Wildlife Park are trained in first aid. There are first-aid kits on site but it is recommended that group leaders/teachers also carry their own first-aid kit while visiting.
- **Evacuation plans:** David Fleay Wildlife Park has an emergency evacuation plan in place. Should an emergency that requires evacuation occur, Park Rangers will guide your groups to the assembly points.
- **Class supervision:** Supervision of students/groups is the responsibility of the attending teacher/group leader.
- Please take responsibility for ensuring that your students adhere to the advice provided by the Park Ranger.
- **School excursion guide:** This guide will be sent to you with your booking confirmation, unless provided prior. Safety information is included in this guide. Please ensure you read it thoroughly. If you do not have a copy of this guide please contact us.
- **Headcounts:** Ensure teachers know where students are at all times and what they are doing. Teachers must conduct regular headcounts.

Activity	Hazard	Potential risks/consequences	Control strategies
Park access	Exiting, boarding or assembling near buses or vehicles in car parks	Students being hit by a vehicle	Students must follow the Park Ranger's instructions. Teachers must ensure that students are aware of other traffic and safely and promptly move away from the car park on arrival.
	Stairs, ramps, boardwalks	Tripping, falling	Teachers must ensure that students keep their pace to a walk at all times and stay on the designated walking tracks. Stairs are present in David Fleay Wildlife Park. Wheelchair access is available.
	Untreated grey water around the Park	Sickness caused by ingesting bacteria in untreated water	Teachers must ensure that students bring sufficient drinking water or only use designated taps in the picnic area.
Bag storage	Bags left unattended	Lost property and theft	We do not offer secure bag storage facilities. Students are advised to keep personal belongings with them at all times. We do not take any responsibility for lost, damaged or stolen items.

Activity	Hazard	Potential risks/consequences	Control strategies
Bag storage		Animals gaining access to food left in bags	Food must be securely stored inside bags which are zipped/fastened to prevent wild animals from accessing.
		Blocked access points and walkways	Students must not leave bags in access points or walkways—we advise they use the bag storage facilities in the picnic area.
Student behaviour	Disruptive students Students not following instructions	Level of student safety becoming compromised	Teachers must be present at all times throughout the activity. Supervision of the students is the responsibility of the teacher. Sufficient supervising adults must be provided for each group. Continued disruption may lead to an amendment or cancellation of the activity.
Walking on tracks	Uneven walking tracks/surfaces	Slipping or tripping	Prior to activities Park Rangers complete a risk assessment on tracks. Teachers must ensure that students keep their pace to a walk at all times and stay on the designated walking tracks.
	Straying from the designated walking track	Student separation from the group	Students are advised to walk carefully and be mindful of their environment. Park Rangers use group management skills to maneuver groups safely around sites to avoid potential hazards. Park Rangers repeat important points about safe conduct throughout the activity. Teachers/adults must supervise students at all times and reinforce Park Ranger's instructions.
Outdoor activities	Weather exposure	Slipping on wet surfaces	If weather conditions are deemed unsuitable for the activity, the activity may be altered or cancelled.
	Exposure to a natural environment	Sickness caused by cold and wet conditions. Sun or heat related injury	Teachers must ensure that all students have hats, sunscreen, insect repellent, warm clothing and rain gear for wet weather. Teachers must ensure students wear sturdy, closed shoes suitable for walking in the natural environment. Teachers must ensure that students bring sufficient food and water (especially in hot weather) for their visit.
		Animal bites/stings	Teachers must ensure that students remain a safe distance from all wildlife at all times. Teachers should advise that students/adults check themselves after visiting natural environments for ticks, leeches etc.
	Uneven surfaces	Tripping	Teachers must supervise students at all times.

Activity	Hazard	Potential risks/consequences	Control strategies
Student/live animal interactions	Inappropriate handling of live native animals	Bites, scratches, infection	Activities are conducted by qualified Park Rangers. Students must follow the Park Ranger's instructions at all times. Inappropriate behaviour may result in the activity being altered or cancelled.
	Bacteria passed on by not covering wounds or not washing hands after touching animals	People with reduced immunity (e.g. pregnant women, the elderly and diabetics) are at higher risk of contracting diseases through contact with animals	After touching animals or animal products, teachers must advise students to wash their hands thoroughly with running water and soap. Cuts and abrasions should be covered before touching animals to avoid risk of infection.
	Dangerous animals	Bites, scratches	Enclosure fences are constructed to exclude access and comply with industry standards. Warning signs are placed on appropriate enclosures. Teachers/adults must ensure that students do not put fingers, hands or any part of the body into animal enclosures.
	Escaped animals	Bites, scratches	All possible steps are followed to ensure that all wildlife remain within their enclosures for the safety and enjoyment of the Park visitors. Should an animal escape from its enclosure, volunteers and/or visitors are to advise the nearest Park Ranger and move well away from the animal/s. All Park Rangers carry two-way radios and can relay communications at any time of the day. Please note that some wild animals also frequent the Park (including water dragons, dusky moorhens, brush-turkeys, ducks and ibis). These animals are free to come and go as they please.
Wildlife shows	Free-flying animals	Collisions	Wildlife shows feature free-flying birds as well as other free-moving animals like snakes and mammals. These animals can interact with the public so caution should be taken when sitting in the audience. Anxious students or those with a fear of birds should be seated to the sides of the theatre to minimise interaction. Students should follow the instructions of the Park Rangers at all times, including remaining seated, keeping hands down, and ensuring that no food is to be consumed during the show.
	Unrestrained animals	Bites, scratches	
Visiting specific areas within the Park (dark areas, dams and creeks, or enclosure fences)	Dark environments	Stress due to fear of the dark Tripping, falling or injury caused by collision in the dark	Students are required to follow the teacher/adults instructions while in this darkened area. Teachers must ensure that students keep their pace to a walk at all times. Visiting the nocturnal area is optional. Exit signs are illuminated.
	Accessible water bodies	Students falling into water becoming wet Drowning	Teachers/adults must supervise students at all times. Teachers/adults must ensure that students act appropriately to minimise water related risks.

Activity	Hazard	Potential risks/consequences	Control strategies
	High railings and fences Electric fences Wallaby Way Theatre seating	Students falling from railings and fences after sitting on them Slight pain from contact with electric fence Animal bites and scratches Trips and falls from students using seating in theatres for climbing/playing/jumping	Teachers/adults must supervise students at all times. Teachers/adults must ensure that students act appropriately to minimise falling related risks. Electric fences are required on some enclosures but are contained behind the enclosure fence, therefore making it unlikely that contact would occur. The electric fences are also low voltage and contact would inflict a sharp pain only. Students must be supervised when entering Wallaby Way and remain on the paths at all times. The animals in this enclosure are free-roaming and members of the public are not to approach, feed, or touch the animals without the supervision of a Park Ranger. Students should be under supervision in these areas at all times and acting appropriately.
Meal breaks	Wild animals, insects	Bites and Stings	Teacher/adults are advised to inspect the ground before requesting students to sit, as wildlife (i.e. insects, birds and lizards) may be present. Teachers must ensure food is not left unattended and that students do not feed wildlife.
Access to public toilets	Contact with strangers Student separation	Harm caused by outsiders Stress due to separation	Teacher/adults are advised to inspect public toilets before use. Students should not go to the bathroom unaccompanied. Teachers/adults must be aware of students' whereabouts at all times.
Student/plant and soil interactions	Contact with soil, plants and seeds	Inhalation of soil particles Choking or ingesting seeds Allergies Infection from bacteria	Park Rangers should moisten the soil to reduce the risk of inhaling soil particles. Seeds are not edible; teachers must ensure that students do not place seeds in their mouth. After touching plants and soil, students must wash their hands thoroughly with running water and soap. Teachers must be aware of any allergies that students have and decide whether the activity is suitable for them. Cuts and abrasions must be covered before touching plants or soil to avoid risk of infection.
Bad weather	Weather exposure	Sickness caused by cold and wet conditions, injuries from falling branches	In the case of severe weather (torrential rain, lightning strikes, strong winds etc.) management will determine whether it is appropriate to close the Park in the interest of public safety. Park Rangers guiding the group will return visitors to areas of safe shelter or evacuate the Park.