

Farmer and Food Connections - Introduction to Excursions



Welcome to Pick of the Crop 'Farmer and Food Connections' Excursions

To ensure your *Pick of the Crop* farm excursion runs smoothly, here is some important information for you and your school to consider.

Before the excursion

- Refer to school's excursion policies (if relevant). This includes the OneSchool Excursion Planner and Schools Term Planner.
- Questions to ask when planning:
 - will the bus need to drive onto the site and is there a safe space for it to park?
 - does the bus drive on unsealed or sealed tracks to get to the site?
 - are there toilet facilities available for students and staff?
 - are there any disabled access or considerations while on site?
 - are there any student allergies that need considering (i.e. nut allergies that require an epi-pen if visiting a nut farm, packing or manufacturing site)?
 - are there Blue Card rules?

It is the school's responsibility to:

- Complete school risk assessments
- Understand travel times to the farm/business and book bus transport. Ensure you provide details to the bus company.
- Coordinate communication and permissions between school and home
- Carry First Aid equipment on the excursion and deliver any first aid
- Complete any other school requirements

- Ensure Health and Wellbeing Queensland media consent forms are completed by students, staff/volunteers
- Ensure students who do not have a media consent form completed are identified to photographers early in the excursion.

Common risks and considerations

- Student may:
 - need hats, closed-in shoes, sunscreen, water
 - be asked to use hand sanitiser
 - be walking through crops, uneven surfaces, and through packing or processing facilities
 - be close to roads and railway tracks and may need to crossroads
 - be in proximity to moving and stationary machinery in cropping, packing sheds and production areas. Noise levels need to be considered
 - touch and taste fresh produce and will need to notify the site of any food / nut allergies or intolerances
 - observe bees and insects / reptiles on the farm.

Expectations

Once a school excursion has been organised, please ensure all your responsibility tasks are completed. It should be noted that farms or agriculture businesses may cancel at short notice due to business demands, weather, changes in circumstances or workforce issues, COVID-19 restrictions or concerns.

No reimbursements or re-scheduling may be possible.



For more information on Pick of the Crop, see www.hw.qld.gov.au/pick-of-the-crop - December 2021