

PERTH ZOO

Excursion Management Plan 2026



Welcome to Perth Zoo

This document provides information to help teachers plan and manage a safe and successful excursion to Perth Zoo. It supports schools in meeting their duty of care requirements and complements your school's own excursion planning processes.

CONTACT DETAILS

Perth Zoo – Discovery and Learning



20 Labouchere Road, South Perth, WA 6151



discoveryandlearning@perthzoo.wa.gov.au



perthzoo.com.au



08 9474 0365

CONTENTS

Your Excursion	3
Risk Assessment and Planning	5
Accessibility and Student Capacity	6
Supervision	6
Transport Arrangements	9
Excursion Map	9
Animal Contact	9
Contact Us	10



YOUR EXCURSION

Perth Zoo is a 19-hectare outdoor learning environment where students can connect with wildlife, discover conservation in action and be inspired to make a difference.

Our programs are designed to support learning beyond the classroom through experiences that are engaging, relevant and linked to the Western Australian Curriculum.

Through hands-on experiences, students explore wildlife science, conservation and sustainability while making meaningful connections with the natural world.

Excursion Options

Educational Experience

Enhance your visit with a facilitated learning session led by an experienced Perth Zoo educator.

- curriculum-linked programs for a range of year levels
- interactive and engaging learning experiences
- session times vary depending on the program selected (see website for further details)

Groups are welcome to explore the Zoo before and/or after their education session under the supervision of school staff and parent helpers.

Self-guided Visit

Plan your own learning experience and explore the Zoo at your own pace.

Self-guided visits are coordinated and supervised by the school's teaching and supervisory team.

Keeper Talks

Visiting groups are encouraged to attend the free keeper talks presented throughout the day. These talks provide a great opportunity for students to learn more about animal care, behaviour and conservation.

Amenities

Toilets, drinking fountains and water refill stations are located throughout the Zoo and are clearly marked on Zoo maps.

Useful resources:

- [Zoo Map](#)
- [Accessibility Map](#)

Both are available on the [Perth Zoo website](#).

Lunch and Bag storage

Groups are welcome to leave lunches and bags on the Main Lawn or in nearby shelters at no cost.

Lockers are also available for hire (\$6 per hire).

Please ensure lunches are stored securely in sealed containers, bags or storage crates. Wild birds are known to take unattended food and can often open zips and Velcro fastenings.

Perth Zoo cannot accept responsibility for lost, stolen or damaged belongings.

External Provider Information

Clearances

Perth Zoo staff and volunteers assisting school visits hold a Federal Police Clearance.
Perth Zoo Discovery and Learning staff also hold Working with Children Checks.

Public Liability Insurance

Insurer: RiskCover
Amount: \$800,000,000

A copy of the Certificate of Currency may be downloaded from Perth Zoo's website:

[Premium Model 26 27 as at 30 September 2025 V2 CRM.xlsm](#)





RISK ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING

Teachers are welcome to visit Perth Zoo before their excursion to become familiar with the site and complete any required risk assessments. To arrange a complimentary pre-visit pass, contact the Discovery and Learning team.

While Perth Zoo staff provide educational experiences and support during your visit, supervision of students remains the responsibility of the school at all times.

Safety Information

Helping wildlife and people stay safe is everyone's responsibility.

When visiting Perth Zoo, please be aware that:

- some habitats contain shallow, open water
- some viewing areas include barriers with significant drop-offs beyond them
- visitors must remain on designated pathways at all times to protect both wildlife and the Zoo's botanical collection

Students should be actively supervised throughout the visit.

Emergency Response Plan

Schools should follow their own emergency management procedures and ensure supervisors are familiar with any student-specific needs before visiting Perth Zoo.

Perth Zoo has comprehensive emergency procedures in place to support the safety of visitors, staff and animals. While operational details are not publicly available, these procedures include:

- evacuation and site exit procedures
- designated safe locations
- emergency response protocols
- communication systems and incident management processes
- emergency contacts and support available at all times

In the event of an emergency or serious incident, instructions will be provided via the public address system and/or by Perth Zoo staff. Staff can be identified by their Perth Zoo identification tags.

School supervisory teams are responsible for managing and supervising students while following directions provided by Zoo staff.

If you require assistance during your visit, including First Aid support or help locating a student or member of your group, please contact a Visitor Services Officer at the Information Hub.

Working together helps ensure a safe and positive experience for everyone at Perth Zoo.



ACCESSIBILITY AND STUDENT CAPACITY

We encourage schools to discuss any health care, physical, learning or cultural requirements when making a booking. Providing this information early allows us to recommend suitable programs, venues and learning experiences wherever possible.

Perth Zoo offers complimentary entry for carers and essential companions supporting visitors with additional needs. We accept a Companion Card or a letter from the school Principal identifying the accompanying carer, essential companion or Education Assistant.

Manual wheelchairs are available free of charge (returnable \$10 deposit and ID required) for visitors requiring mobility assistance. Advance bookings are recommended (call 08 9474 0444 to book).

Appropriate Clothing

Perth Zoo is predominantly an outdoor venue, so students and supervisors should dress for the weather conditions on the day.

We recommend:

- comfortable enclosed shoes
- a hat
- sunscreen
- weather-appropriate clothing, including rain protection when required

Schools may also wish to use school uniform or another easily identifiable item to help supervisors quickly identify students within their group.

SUPERVISION

The school supervisory team is responsible for the safety, wellbeing and behaviour of students throughout the excursion.

Perth Zoo staff, volunteers and educators may lead activities and learning experiences, but they do not provide student supervision. Perth Zoo has a nominated Emergency Coordinator, Communications Coordinator and trained First Aid staff on duty at all times.

We recommend school supervisory staff have access to:

- student attendance records
- emergency contact details
- relevant medical information
- a school First Aid Kit



The teacher-in-charge should ensure all supervisors understand their responsibilities before arrival.

Misconduct that compromises the safety of visitors, staff or animals may result in students being asked to leave the Zoo and may affect future school bookings.

It is the school's responsibility to ensure teaching staff and parent/carers/guardians acting as supervisors have appropriate clearances for working with children.

Supervisory strategies

To support schools in meeting their supervision requirements, Perth Zoo provides complimentary entry for adult supervisors based on the following recommended ratios:

Age Group	Adult : Student Ratio
Kindergarten – Year 3	1:5
Year 4 – Year 6	1:10
Year 7 – Year 12	1:10

Schools should determine the most appropriate level of supervision based on the age, needs and abilities of their students.

If you would like to discuss supervision requirements, please contact the Discovery and Learning team at discoveryandlearning@perthzoo.wa.gov.au.

Student Supervision

Students in Kindergarten to Year 10 must remain with a supervising adult for the duration of their visit. Year 11 and Year 12 students may explore the Zoo in small groups without direct supervision. Teachers are encouraged to maintain a visible presence throughout the Zoo and arrange regular check-in times and meeting locations during the day.

Areas Requiring Additional Supervision

Some areas of the Zoo require closer supervision to support student safety and visitor comfort.

Nocturnal House and Reptile Encounter

- students must be supervised at all times while visiting these exhibits

Zoo Shop

- students are welcome to visit in small groups of up to 10 with an adult supervisor
- to avoid congestion, consider scheduling shop visits throughout the day rather than at the end of your excursion

Active supervision helps ensure a safe, enjoyable and rewarding experience for both your students and other Zoo visitors.



Communication

Before your visit, establish a clear communication plan for students, teachers and supervisors. Ensure everyone understands how to stay in contact and what to do if they become separated from the group.

Please note that the following items are not permitted at Perth Zoo:

- megaphones
- air horns
- whistles
- two-way radios

We recommend that at least one member of the school supervisory team carries a mobile phone that can be used throughout the visit. As mobile coverage can vary in some areas of the Zoo, schools should establish meeting points and communication procedures before arrival.

Please provide a contact mobile number when making your booking and confirm these details with Admissions staff on arrival.

If you need assistance locating a student or member of your group during your visit, please contact a Visitor Services Officer at the Information Hub.

Briefing Students and Supervisors

Before your visit, the teacher-in-charge should ensure all students and supervisors are familiar with the Zoo's expectations, supervision arrangements and emergency procedures.

School supervisory teams are responsible for actively monitoring students throughout the excursion and responding promptly to any behavioural or safety concerns.

When briefing students, please emphasise that:

- Zoo animals must not be fed, touched or disturbed
- all visitors must remain on designated pathways
- respectful behaviour is expected at all times
- the Zoo is shared with other school groups and visitors, and everyone has a role to play in creating a safe and enjoyable experience

Please note that feeding or interfering with Zoo animals is an offence under the *Zoological Parks Authority Regulations 2002* and may result in a fine of up to \$600.

Misconduct may result in students being asked to leave Perth Zoo and could affect future bookings for the school. In serious circumstances, police involvement may be required.

We encourage schools to use the information in this management plan to help prepare students and supervisors before arriving at Perth Zoo.



TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS

Transport to and from Perth Zoo is the responsibility of the school.

Bus Access and Parking

Buses can access the Perth Zoo car park via Mill Point Road. Limited bus parking is available in the designated bus bays within the car park, approximately a 300 m walk from the Zoo entrance.

Student Drop-off

Students can be dropped off:

- in the designated bus bays within the car park
- on the slip road accessed via the Mill Point Road car park

If using the slip road, please ensure drop-off is completed promptly and does not obstruct visitor parking bays or vehicle access.

Student Pick-up

To keep the slip road clear and maintain safe vehicle access, all bus pick-ups must take place in the designated bus parking area within the Mill Point Road car park.

EXCURSION MAP

Drop-off locations, bus parking and key arrival points are identified on the [Perth Zoo Excursion Map](#).

We recommend sharing these details with your bus driver and your Supervisory Team before the day of your visit to help ensure a smooth arrival and departure.

ANIMAL CONTACT

Following any education experience that includes close animal contact, students should clean their hands using the Zoo-approved hand sanitiser provided by Perth Zoo staff.

School supervisors are responsible for ensuring students complete this important hygiene step before continuing their visit.

CONTACT US

Our Discovery and Learning team is here to help with excursion planning, education programs and questions about facilities or learning spaces.

Discovery and Learning

Email: discoveryandlearning@perthzoo.wa.gov.au

Phone: 08 9474 0365

We encourage schools to contact us before their visit if they would like to discuss program options, accessibility requirements or any aspect of their excursion planning.

