

# Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens School Excursions

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Q. Do I need to make a booking for a school group visit?

**A.** Yes. When planning an excursion, please contact Gardens Administration for an excursion application form or it is available on our website.

Scheduled maintenance, events and private functions could impact upon your proposed visit as certain areas may be unavailable to the public. If we know about your plans, we can assist with site choices for your visit and/ or suggest a more suitable time or day to avoid clashes and enable you to make the most of your time in the gardens.

### Q. Is there a fee involved for self-guided school visits.

**A.** No. Self-guided school visits are free of charge. Guided school visits with Botanic Gardens staff are not currently available.

### Q. Do I need to get permission to take water samples from Lagoon or Pond dipping?

**A.** Yes, pre-approval is required from the Botanic Gardens Curator for any activity where you intend to remove water from the Lagoon.

Water sampling must be undertaken on site and all water returned to the Lagoons prior to leaving site. Lagoon water is not permitted to be taken off site due to the presence of invasive pest species within the waterway.

Permission from the Curator is required to collect anything, including plant and animal material, within the Botanic Gardens. Permits are required from the State Government for certain items, so contacting the Gardens team in the first instance ensures that you are not undertaking prohibited activities.

### Q. Are we allowed to set up marquees on the lawn?

**A.** Yes. Marquees, tables, chairs, or picnic rugs can be used on our lawns however, they must not be pegged into the lawns or tied to any plants or associated infrastructure. Weights are to be used if required.

### Q. Where are the best locations for school groups to gather as a group and have lunch breaks?

**A.** There are several areas, close to public toilets that are suitable to gather including the Tropical Sun Lawn, Torres Strait Islander shelter and lawn area, Meadowlands Amphitheatre surrounds, Australian South Sea Islander precinct (toilets located across the road in Col Story Park). Please contact the gardens for more suggestions.

### Q. Where are suitable bus drop off/ pick up locations?

**A.** The Bus Bay is located on Lagoon Street, just north of



the main entrance carpark. An alternative drop off/ pick up location is at Meadowlands carpark, access via Crowleys Road.

### Q. Where are the public toilet located?

**A.** Public toilets are located across the Botanic Gardens site at:

- Outside Botanic Gardens Visitor Information (Administration building), opposite the café
- Tamarind carpark near the Botanic Gardens Playground.
- Meadowlands Amphitheatre; and
- Col Story Park, at the back of old Visitor Information Centre building.

## Bookings & Enquiries

For all enquiries or to make a booking, please contact Gardens Administration via 4952 7300 or [botanic@mackay.qld.gov.au](mailto:botanic@mackay.qld.gov.au)