



# Learning Experience – Melbourne Zoo

## Risk Management / Safety and Venue Information

Over 40 years' experience delivering education programs to Victorian students has demonstrated that the best education outcomes are achieved at our sites through a common-sense balance of student independence and supervision, appropriate to age level and school regulations. Generally speaking we recommend the minimum amount of supervision necessary and encourage students to explore our sites as independently as possible. Given this, the information below is provided to help teachers and students prepare and plan a safe visit to Melbourne Zoo. In addition, Zoos Victoria provides free of charge teacher familiarisation sessions at each of our properties, visit <http://www.zoo.org.au/education/teacher-pd>.

<b>Hazard Location:</b> Melbourne Zoo, Elliot Avenue, Parkville, VICTORIA	
<b>Hazard Description:</b> Child safety at Melbourne Zoo during school excursion	
<b>Hazard Identification</b>	<b>Risk Reduction Control Measures</b>
<b>Walking through the Zoo grounds – missing child/ren.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure students are familiar with (<a href="#">map</a>) and prepared for walking through a large site.</li> <li>• Follow recommended supervision ratios of 1:3 for Early Childhood, 1:5 Primary School and 1:10 Secondary School</li> <li>• It is recommended that secondary school students are allowed to independently explore the zoo in small groups and that upper primary students do so on a case-by-case basis, or with adult supervision, in small groups. Early Childhood and lower primary school students should be accompanied by a supervising adults in small groups. Students remain the responsibility of the school teachers at all times</li> <li>• Implement appropriate supervision strategies including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Childhood/Primary Schools: name badges, mobile phone number displayed on students, regular role calls, establishing meeting points and meeting times</li> <li>• Secondary Schools: teacher mobile phone contact, regular meeting points and times, a zoo map for each group (printed at school or on own device)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Gather all students and adults at beginning of day to outline meeting times and ensure site orientation</li> <li>• Encourage missing students to report to any Zoo staff member</li> <li>• Zoo staff have emergency management systems in place to handle missing students as well as visitor and medical emergencies</li> </ul>
<b>Walking through the Zoo grounds – exposure to extreme weather.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure students are provided with adequate sun protection and water (water points throughout zoo – see <a href="#">map</a>)</li> <li>• Become aware of undercover areas in case of extreme weather. i.e. Keeper Kids, Reptile House, Orang-utan Sanctuary etc.</li> <li>• First Aid officers are on duty at all times and can be located at the Zoo Entry</li> <li>• Melbourne Zoo complies with all access requirements for students with a disability</li> </ul>

*Zoos Victoria is a not-for-profit zoo-based conservation organisation committed to fighting wildlife extinction.*



<p><b>Contact with Zoo collection animals</b> – possibility, but unlikely, exposure to bites, disease and allergies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some Zoo animals are conditioned for close contact with visitors. These experiences are always facilitated by trained Zoo personnel to mitigate risk of injury such as biting or scratching while maintaining a positive welfare state for the animal</li> <li>• The health of all Zoo animals is routinely monitored and managed appropriately to minimize any risk of disease transfer to visitors.</li> <li>• Hand washing facilities are available within the vicinity of all animal contact experiences</li> </ul>
<p><b>Car Park</b> – accident with vehicle upon entry and exit to the zoo.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A bus pick-up and drop-off zone is located directly in front of zoo entrance.</li> <li>• All visitors (including students) must use designated and marked walkways to the zoo entrance.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Child Protection</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Zoo staff are compliant with National Police Checks and, where applicable, compliant with Victorian Working with Children Checks or Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) registration.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Role of the Zoos</b>  Management and employees recognise that they jointly have a key role in prevention and mitigation activities to reduce, or minimise the effects, of emergencies that may occur. Review of existing policies and acting in accordance with statutory and world zoological practices combine to ensure all measures possible are addressed to reduce the likelihood of an emergency.</p>	

**In case of emergencies whilst at Melbourne Zoo please call 9285 9300**

