

SANCTUARY MOUNTAIN MAUNGATAUTARI EDUCATION

PRE-VISIT INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS AND GROUP ORGANISERS

Weather conditions, time of day, noise levels and seasonal changes may impact what we see or hear on the day of your visit. Species are not in captivity or on display like in a zoo and we cannot guarantee which species you will see on the day of your visit.

Before your visit:

Our [student facing website](#) has a number of resources and activities that students can explore. Some of these activities will help them prepare for their trip, for example our [What To Expect](#) slide deck. Others are projects that can be carried out after the trip. Our [teacher page](#) also has lots of links to resources and activities that could be useful. If you really want to maximise your time with us you can complete this [prior knowledge and question check](#) and share it with us before or on arrival.

Where to meet:

99 Tari Road, Pukeatua (southern side of the mountain). Park in the new car parking area. Enter via the last gate on the left near the end of Tari Road. You will see the education centre building from here. You will be greeted upon arrival by our education team and welcomed into our new education facility, the **Manu Korokii Profile Group Education Centre**. If you're using GPS don't type in Maungatautari as this will take you to the northern side of the maunga.

What to bring:

FOOD: A packed lunch for plenty of energy - packed in a sealed container. Our visitor centre does not have a fully operating cafe so please ensure all adults also bring their lunch. There are no rubbish bins at the Education Centre so please ensure students pack in and pack out any rubbish they have.

CLOTHING: Bring clothing suitable for the conditions and bear in mind these can change quickly. Sunhat and sunscreen are essential in summer. A rainproof jacket with a hood is a good idea for all seasons. In the winter months, the temperature on the mountain is often much colder than you have been used to experiencing at school (we are ~300m above sea level) and we will be outside for much of your visit. Layers are best rather than just one warm jumper or jacket. It is better to bring more layers than you need than to not have enough warm clothing, including gloves, scarf and a warm hat.

SHOES: Clean, sturdy, comfortable, closed footwear suitable for walking on loose gravel and grass tracks. Warm socks in winter (or two pairs!). Crocs, slides and jandals are not suitable footwear.

If students arrive with crocs, jandals or slides, they may not be able to take part in the walks in the forest or wetlands. This will affect your adult to student ratios as an adult will have to stay with the student.

If your class is visiting the Tautari Wetlands in winter then gumboots are the best form of footwear. We have twelve pairs of gumboots available for use on the day thanks to our friends at Skellerup.

PERSONAL MEDICATIONS: Any essential personal medications, especially epipens and antihistamines as we do come across wasps at certain times of the year.

WATER: Please bring a full bottle of water for the day. There is a tap available to refill bottles. Please discourage large bottles of fizzy drinks and bags of lollies as lunch items.

DAY BACKPACK: Backpack that can be zipped closed.

FIRST AID: Schools are required to bring their own first aid kit. Educators do also carry a basic forest first aid kit and are first aid trained.

COMPLETE LIST OF PARTICIPANTS: Teacher in charge to carry a comprehensive list of all participants, contact details and medical information.

PERSONAL ITEMS: The school is responsible for their own valuable items such as cameras or devices etc. Please do not leave valuables in cars. If you want to capture photos of your trip, please limit this to one person per class group. Please do not video the whole visit or allow students to vlog the trip and post to social media. Prior permission is required to film staff, volunteers or other visitors and a concession to film is required through Waipa District Council.

THINGS TO LEAVE AT HOME/SCHOOL: Pets, bikes, balls, chewing gum, portable speakers, valuable personal items.

Adult Helpers:

Early Childhood: 1:3

Years 0-6, 1:5 (juniors) or 1:6

Years 7-8, 1:8

Years 9-10, 1:10

Years 11-13, 1:15

NB: Please do not bring too many adults over and above the ratios suggested. Too many adults creates much larger group sizes for our educators to manage in the sanctuary environment and can distract students from the learning experience our team works hard to provide.

In order to get the most out of your day and to ensure everyone has a safe and enjoyable visit, please thoroughly brief both supervising adults and students before the trip as to WHY you are going on the trip and outline clear behavioural expectations for the day using the information provided.

[These sheets](#) can be printed for each adult so that they can be fully prepared and support their group to get the most out of the day.

- **A reasonable level of fitness is required of the adults to keep up with the group.**
- Parents will stay with the group of students you have assigned to them, actively supervise and encourage students and engage in activities. They are role models and their complete attention and participation will enrich the experience for your students.

- As role models it is great if parents engage with the guided tour, support the educator guiding the group and reinforce instructions. Please:
 - avoid ongoing conversations with other parents or on the phone during the tour
 - avoid pulling students aside to show them something else (the educators may be planning to share the same thing at a different point)
 - avoid wandering off and holding up the rest of the group
- Please ensure adults inform the educator if a student is not feeling well or needs to be taken to the toilet. It is important that the group does not get split up without an agreed plan.
- Please encourage parents to allow the students time to answer questions posed by the educators. Trust the educators! They have specialised local knowledge and experience, a plan, timeframes to work within and the other class groups to work around.
- Do not allow adult helpers to bring along other siblings (babies or toddlers). You need them to focus on their role as supervisors for the health and safety of your school students.
- Encourage adults to supervise students at break times and when going up to the bioloos toilets. Some younger students may have difficulty with the locks on doors and washing hands.
- Please note, Sanctuary Mountain is a smoke-free environment (this includes no vaping).

Keeping Safe:

- Check the weather forecast before you leave.
 - a. [Waikato Weather Forecasts and Observations](#)
 - b. [YR Waipa District Pukeatua](#)
- Check that all participants are well prepared (as above) and feeling well before you leave. Please do not bring students or adults who are not feeling well.
- Stay with your group at all times.
- It is the responsibility of the teachers to manage the behaviour of the group and to supervise students during food and toilet break times. Please have an adult up by the toilet area to ensure students walk down the hill.
- Stay on the tracks at all times. Do not allow pushing and shoving, running around the group to get to the front, bumping each other deliberately off tracks or deliberately tripping others up.
- Students need to stay behind the educator guiding your group and in front of the adult assigned to supervise each group from the back.
- Make sure students do not touch any of the pest control, bait stations or monitoring devices.
- There is a maximum of 20 to walk up the tower in the forest at a time. There may be other members of the public visiting the tower also. Please do not encourage students to run ahead or climb on the southern enclosure tower, spit or drop items off the top of the tower.
- Do not allow students to climb on or jump off fences, gates, water tanks, shade sails or garden beds.
- Ensure students walk calmly to and from vehicles in the carpark.
- Make sure you have read our full [health and safety documentation](#). Feel free to use this as part of the RAMs form for your trip.
- While it is still safe to visit, as part of our response to HPAI please ensure:
 - All shoes are cleaned before arrival
 - Students are not picking up anything from the track or handling any feathers etc.
 - Students are washing and/or sanitising hands before eating on the day
 - Students listen to any follow any instructions from the educators if situations arise

Toilets:

Bioloos toilets are available for use outside the visitor centre (up the hill from the education room). These facilities are cleaned between groups. There is a toilet next to the Education Centre for adults and anyone with special accessibility requirements to use.

- Please facilitate students using the bioloos and supervise students around the bioloos facilities, encourage good hand hygiene.
- Make sure students walk to and from the bioloos and respect each other's privacy when using them.
- Ensure you do not have valuables in pockets as these can be lost if they fall into the bioloos toilet.

Biosecurity:

Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari is a pest-free environment behind the Xcluder fence. Help us to keep it that way by checking your gear before you visit for any soil, seeds or unwanted stowaway pests.

Check - your gear for pests such as rodents, skinks or insects.

Clean - your footwear and gear, removing soil and seeds.

Close - ensure your gear is zipped up and food is in a sealed container to avoid attracting pests.

Before leaving home/school: Clean your footwear. Organise for food to be carried in sealed containers (a large ziplock bag can be used).

Before going through any of the double door systems into the sanctuary: If bags are being carried into the sanctuary, checks will be carried out as a group before going through any of the double door system

Map:



New Zealand Environmental Care Code:

- Protect plants and animals (take only photographs and leave only footprints). Treat New Zealand's forests and wildlife with care and respect. They are unique and often rare.
- Do not feed the animals.
- Take home all the rubbish you bring with you (pack in and pack out). Litter can be harmful to wildlife and can attract pests. Try packing a litter-less lunch in a rodent-proof container!

- Stay on the tracks. By keeping to the track you protect fragile plants and ground nesting birds.
- Do not pick up and throw stones from the pathways.
- Keep away from and do not touch any pest control devices (tunnels, traps or bait stations).
- Enjoy your visit and toitu te whenua (leave the land undisturbed).
- Consider noise levels. Other visitors may also be enjoying the natural environment.
- Respect cultural heritage and property: Do not graffiti or carve into the trees, seats or railings of the tower or bridges. The seats are memorial seats.
- No dogs permitted.
**Please contact us before your trip if anyone in your group requires an assistance dog.*
- No pets, bikes, balls, chewing gum, smoking, vaping or portable speakers permitted.
- Photography care code:
 - Keep to the track (avoid trampling sensitive vegetation).
 - Keep your distance from wildlife - use a zoom lens.
 - Stay within publicly accessible places unless you have permission for access.

**We look forward to hosting you within the incredible ngahere at
Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari soon!**