

Buckingham House

EXCURSION MANAGEMENT PLAN



Buckingham House & the Old Wanneroo Schoolhouse 10 Neville Drive, Wanneroo

If you require any further information or would like to discuss program details, please contact:

Heritage Education

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Purpose of the excursion

Schools visiting Buckingham House receive a hands-on experience of what life was like for the Buckingham family; early settlers of Wanneroo over 130 years ago.

Students participate in activities that replicate the chores, schooling and technology as used by the Buckingham family. Instructed by engaging and knowledgeable volunteers, students cook up damper in the kitchen; complete a sewing task in the sitting room; attend a lesson in the 1898 Old Wanneroo School House; learn how to milk a cow and hear what life was like for pioneer families, and do some pioneer style washing and butter churning. Morning tea comprises the damper and butter made on the day. Students play pioneer games including hopscotch, quoits, tug-of-war, giant noughts and crosses, garden dominoes and skittles.



Year 2 & 3

Students connect themes of technology where they see first-hand how settler families completed domestic chores and ran a dairy. This allows students to make comparisons to the convenience of modern day appliances.

The Buckingham House Education Program starts at 9:15am and concludes by 12 noon. Please ensure you arrive in good time as activities commence promptly. We encourage students (and adults) to dress up in period costume to enhance their excursion experience of life in the olden days.



Background History

1890 BUCKINGHAM HOUSE

John and Emily Amelia Buckingham and their seven children lived in Buckingham House. Although John first arrived in the colony in 1850 the land surrounding Buckingham House was not purchased until the 1870s and 1880s for grazing cattle. As graziers, their home was well situated close to Lake Joondalup to access water for their cattle and vegetable gardens.

The Buckingham family left the Wanneroo area in the late 1890s but retained ownership of Buckingham House and surrounding lands until the 1920s.

1898 OLD WANNEROO SCHOOL HOUSE

John Buckingham donated five acres of land for the construction of a school to the Education Department in 1898. He also gave £5 towards building costs. The Wanneroo School was opened on 30 January 1899 with Charles Shaw as teacher and 14 students enrolled. The East Wanneroo School (previously named Lake Jandabup School) was opened several years later in 1904, and closed in 1926 when the classroom was moved and joined to the Wanneroo School. The Wanneroo School was used until a new school was built in 1959 and the Forestry Department made use of the building.

After several moves, the old school was relocated next to Buckingham House in 2009.

Pre-excursion preparation

Please have your class organised into 5 groups, with one parent helper per group (we start off as one large group and divide into small groups during the morning). Please be aware that it may be required that students be re-sorted into 4 groups on the day.

It helps our staff and volunteers if children are wearing a name badge or name sticker.

Some activities and morning tea are outdoors; please remind parents to ensure children are dressed appropriately, especially in the colder months - long sleeves are recommended and a hat/sunscreen for warmer weather. Please also wear enclosed shoes.

For safety reasons parent helpers are asked to attend without bringing other children/toddlers.

School adult supervisors (teacher and parent helpers) are requested to ensure students are well supervised and to encourage best behavior and manners of the students during their time at Buckingham House.

On the day of the excursion

- Please bring with you a first aid kit and a mobile phone.
- On arrival at 9.15am, a whole group safety briefing and a Buckingham House introduction will occur before breaking up into groups and commencing the heritage activities. Students complete 3 activities before morning tea; the final two activities are then completed and the entire session is closed with a brief whole-group recap.
- Please be aware that there is smoke at this location as we run wood fires for some of the activities. This may affect asthmatics.
- Morning tea is provided for students and adults – students make damper (from flour) and butter, we provide water for students and tea/coffee for adults. Please ask any parent whose child has a gluten or dairy allergy to provide an alternative morning tea snack.
- Morning tea break is approximately 20 minutes and is supervised by the teacher and parent helpers. Old fashioned games are provided to further engage the students.
- Any extra damper and activities completed by the students can be taken back to school.
- Space in both buildings is limited so school bags should be left at school. Hats and drink bottles are permitted and can be left in the shade at the front of the house.

School supervisor team

TEACHER & PARENT HELPERS

Students must be accompanied throughout the excursion.

The teacher and parent helpers actively monitor behaviour and intervene as necessary to ensure the safety of the group. City of Wanneroo staff and volunteers will lead, demonstrate, and present activities, but are not responsible for the supervision of students. During morning tea, the teachers and parent helpers will directly supervise the serving of damper and the playing of pioneer games.

As space is restricted at Buckingham House, the maximum size for a school group booking is 35 students. The class will participate in some whole group activities and also break into small groups. The City of Wanneroo requires 5 parent helpers only per excursion plus the class Teacher (any student requiring one-on-one adult support is welcomed in addition to the above).



Emergency Response Plan

Buckingham House is a small rural cottage with two external doors. The Old Schoolhouse classroom used for the program has one external door leading to a short corridor and an internal door. Exiting both buildings during an emergency is through the nearest external door if safe to exit. In the event of an emergency, students and adult supervisors are to assemble at the Meeting Point at the double gates on Neville Drive unless otherwise directed by a City of Wanneroo member of staff.

The teacher is expected to carry a roll and must notify City of Wanneroo staff if any students are missing.

It is the responsibility of the school to provide basic first aid to the student and we recommend the teacher bring a mobile phone and first aid kit on the excursion. Staff and volunteers will assist if possible.



External Provider Information

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CLEARANCES
City of Wanneroo employees and heritage volunteers who work with school groups all possess a current Working With Children Check.

PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE
The City of Wanneroo is a public entity and is insured by Local Government Insurances. Public liability policy is for \$100 million and the policy number is 000149. This amount exceeds the Education Department of Western Australia's public liability requirements. A Certificate of Currency is available from the City's website wanneroo.wa.gov.au

CITY OF WANNEROO ABN - 64 295 981 165

ACCESSIBILITY

Environment: Buckingham House is located on Neville Drive just off Scenic Drive near Lake Joondalup. The grounds have grassed areas with several large trees providing shade.

The Old Wanneroo Schoolhouse is also located on the same site.

Toilets: male and female toilets are both wheelchair accessible.

Trained guide or assistance dogs: visitors accompanied by a trained guide or assistance dog or a dog undergoing such training are welcome in this site.

Transport: transport of students to Buckingham House is the responsibility of the visiting school.

Drop off area: children can be dropped at the front double gates on Neville Drive and the bus then proceed to the Scenic Drive parking area if parking is required. Parking outside Buckingham House and on Neville Drive verges is not allowed. Parent helpers can park in the Scenic Drive car park and walk along the back to the side gate of Buckingham House located on the path toward the childcare centre.

Entry/access: the front section of Buckingham House is wheelchair accessible from the front entrance although larger electric wheelchairs may not fit through the front door.

There is a step down from the lounge to the kitchen, and a shallow step from the kitchen to the back area. A pathway gives access behind the house and to the schoolhouse via a ramp.

