



INFORMATION BOOKLET

RURAL DISCOVERY DAY



Foundation - 6

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DOCUMENT INFORMATION

This excursion information booklet has been developed to assist educators in completing school excursion consent forms and risk assessments. It provides important details regarding proposed activities, teacher/educator supervision, transport, dress code, medical and personal information, and excursion costs.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the representatives listed under 'Important Contacts'.

EXCURSION DETAILS

Event: Rural Discovery Day

Dates: Monday 18 – Friday 22 May 2026

Arrival: 9am - 9:30am

Departure: 2pm

Location: Building 8 / Alexandria Park - Alexandria Lane, Brisbane Showgrounds



IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Rural Discovery Day Enquiries

Brendan Alexander | Competitions & Events Planner

BAlexander@rna.org.au

Education Content Enquiries

Emily Holden | Entertainment & Education Coordinator

EHolden@rna.org.au



PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

Rural Discovery Day includes seven immersive agricultural activities linked to curriculum with classroom resources. The sessions are QLD Beef, Wool Workshop, Journey of an Egg, Horticulture, Sugarcane, Worms - Composting and Scarecrow Making.

RURAL DISCOVERY DAY SESSIONS



QLD Beef Up Close Session

Students will explore different cattle breeds, gain insights into farming practices, and enjoy hands-on opportunities to connect with the animals and the people in the industry.



Wool Workshop Session

Students will explore the journey of wool from sheep to yarn in this hands-on workshop. They'll meet the animals, sort fleece, and try traditional techniques like carding, spinning, and weaving on a hand loom, finishing with a colourful wool bracelet to take home.



Journey of an Egg Session

Students will discover the nutritional benefits of eggs, from their high protein content to essential vitamins and minerals. They'll experiment with flavours and ingredients to create a simple, open-faced sandwich that's both healthy and uniquely their own.



Funky Food - Horticulture Session

Students will explore essential water conservation techniques for farming and have the opportunity to try some Funky Fruit & Vegetables, giving them a hands-on reminder of sustainable practices and the importance of responsible food sourcing.



Sugarcane Session

Students will explore the sweet journey of sugar—from paddock to packet—tasting, touching, and discovering how sugarcane is grown, processed, and reused. They'll learn how every part of the plant is valued and plant their own sugarcane to take home.



Worms - Composting Session

Students will explore how composting with worms helps improve soil health and contributes to sustainable farming. They'll learn practical steps for composting at home or in the school garden.



Scarecrow Making Session

Students will work together to build scarecrows, exploring their role in keeping crops safe, understanding traditional and modern farming practices, and using teamwork to bring their ideas to life.

RURAL DISCOVERY DAY SNEAK PEAK

Come with us on an exciting ag-venture! Our Ekka TV from the 2025 and 2024 Rural Discovery Day showcases the amazing, sensory opportunities for students at this excursion. Please note; the sessions change year on year!

Milking a Cow: Dairy & Cream Edition



Students Build a Scarecrow



Students Learn About Agriculture / Ekka TV Rural Discovery Day 2024



RISK ASSESSMENT

Rural Discovery Day is considered a **medium to low risk excursion**. Key risk controls include:

- **Animal Interaction:** All animals are supervised by trained handlers. Animals used are domesticated and comfortable with interaction.
- **Environmental Exposure:** Handwashing facilities are provided.
- **Biosecurity:** In line with Queensland Health directives, hand washing and sanitising is mandatory before and after animal contact.
- **Medical Emergencies:** A paramedic is onsite throughout the event.
- **Allergy Management:** Sessions may involve dairy, egg, grains, and soil allergens. Ensure students carry medication and avoid relevant triggers.

For school-based risk assessment templates, please refer to the CARA guidelines from Education Queensland: [Animal Observation and Handing Guidelines](#)

SUPERVISION ARRANGEMENTS

Each activity session is designed for 25-30 students per group and we recommend that at least one teacher supervises each group of students. The Ekka Education Department coordinate the allocation of groups, and, we always aim to ensure that school groups stay together where possible. Additional teachers are welcome, and the student/teacher ratio can be confirmed upon booking. There will be at least one Ekka staff member supervising each activity session as well as the educators providing the activities.

While there are no specific educator-to-child ratios for excursions, the National Regulations require that minimum supervision needs are considered with respect to the age of the students and type of activity involved. If the activity conducted away from schools may increase risks, then the standard of care required must therefore reflect the increase in identified risks, causing the required ratios to be higher than the minimum.

Please refer to the [Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority Policy](#) for further guidelines.

MEDICAL & PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Students with asthma, allergies, or other medical conditions must bring their medication (e.g., inhalers, EpiPens).
- Medical Action Plans should be shared with supervising teachers and relevant Ekka staff in advance.
- Hands-on sessions include contact with **grains, hay, egg, soil, and animals**, so please assess students' suitability before attending.
- **Paramedic onsite for emergency medical support.**
- **Food allergies:** Students must not share food and must avoid consuming anything not packed by their parent/guardian.



TRANSPORT

Schools are required to organise their own transport. Buses will be able to drop off students along Alexandria Lane located next to the Building 8 and Alexandria Park area, where the excursion will be held.

Vehicles will be able to park onsite for the duration of the day with more details to be provided upon booking.

Map: <https://www.brisbaneshowgrounds.com.au/visitors/map/>



DRESS CODE & PRECAUTIONS

- **Uniform:** School or sports uniform recommended.
- **Footwear:** Closed-in shoes only.
- **Sun Safety:** Hats and sunscreen are required.
- **Food:** Students must bring their own lunch and water bottle. **No refrigeration available.**
- **Water Refill Stations:** Available at venue.
- **Valuables:** Students are discouraged from bringing unnecessary items. The Ekka takes no responsibility for lost property.



EXCURSIONS COSTS

Rural Discovery Day is \$19.95 per student. Entry for teachers/carers is free of charge.

The Ekka is not liable to give a refund or exchange the Ticket for cancellation of any reason. Once numbers have been confirmed and payment is received, no changes can be made to a booking.

For more information please contact our Event Planner Brendan Alexander at
balexander@royalqueenslandshow.com.au

Don't miss out! Complete your Expression of Interest today via
www.ekka.com.au/education/rural-discovery-day/

Expressions of Interest Close on Friday 30 January at 3pm.





DISCOVER QUEENSLAND'S BIGGEST CLASSROOM

Join schools from across the state bringing learning to life through the Ekka experience.



Scan here to get involved!



Ekka

ROYAL QUEENSLAND SHOW



INTERNATIONAL AWARD WINNERS

The Royal Queensland Show (Ekka) is recognised for its excellence, over many years, by winning numerous awards at the International Fairs & Expos (IAFE) Awards.

IAFE has more than 1,000 members representing agricultural fairs from the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and Australia.

These awards represent the continued dedication the Ekka plays in bridging the country city divide, and educating the next generation on the essential role farming and agriculture plays in their everyday lives.

