

Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary - Education School Groups - Risk Assessment

Organisation Name: Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary

Date Conducted: February 2026

Next Review Date: March 2027

The following risk assessment is a guidance for visiting school groups to Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary and outlines the key potential risks that have been identified for educational school groups. Organisers of school groups may use the following information to create their own risk assessment.

Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary strongly recommends that visiting groups contact the sanctuary prior to their visit if there are any concerns or specific needs required – education@koala.net

RESPONSIBILITIES

All visitors have a duty of care to take reasonable care for their own health and safety when visiting the sanctuary. Visitors are expected to ensure that their behaviour does not impact on another’s health and safety.

All visitors must comply with all safety instructions, warnings, polices & procedures advised by Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary staff.

Teachers, chaperones, carers, and any other supporting adults are responsible at all times for the visiting school group and their behaviour towards animals (both in our care and in the wild), staff, volunteers, and other visitors.

RISK MATRIX

Likelihood	Consequence				
	Insignificant (1)	Minor (2)	Moderate (3)	Major (4)	Extreme (5)
Almost Certain (5)	6 - Medium	7 – High	8 – Extreme	9 – Extreme	10 – Extreme
Likely (4)	5 – Medium	6 – Medium	7 – High	8 – Extreme	9 – Extreme
Possible (3)	4 – Low	5 – Medium	6 – Medium	7 – High	8 – Extreme
Unlikely (2)	3 – Low	4 – Low	5 – Medium	6 – High	7 – High
Rare (1)	2 - Low	3 - Low	4 - Low	5 - Medium	6 – High

Ref	Risk Description	Hazard Details	Controls	Residual Risk Rating
#1	Students with medical conditions and/or allergies	First Aid Incident or Medical Treated Incident arising due to pre-existing medical conditions or allergies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Teachers/Carers to ensure all relevant medication is adequately labelled and taken on the excursion/visit including allergy action plan and first aid kits b) Appointed first aid staff trained and certified c) First Aid kits available throughout the sanctuary d) First Aid room available for use e) Parents/Teachers/Carers to advise of allergies to the following ingredients of our Kangaroo food prior to visit; barley, canola meal, mill run (wheat flour by product), molasses, calcium carbonate, salt, mould inhibitor and may contain traces of soy. Students with allergies to these products will be provided with gloves or an alternate food source 	Low
#2	Risk of Contamination through Animal Feeding/Lack of hygiene	First Aid Incident or Medical Treated Incident arising due to infection or illness sustained from feeding an animal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Barn - cups washed with detergent and disinfected daily b) Regular cleaning and disinfection of animal exhibits and sinks to minimise risk of exposure c) All staff and volunteers informed of zoonotic risks and trained to practice hygienic methods of work d) Education officers brief students on importance of practicing good hygiene at start of visit e) All students instructed to wash hands immediately after visiting barn & any animal interaction f) Handwashing basins available at Barn exit and immediately outside of Nature Kingdom gates at toilet block g) Alcohol based hand sanitiser available at Sheepdog Show area exit and Nature Kingdom gate exit 	Low

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> h) Signage located at hand wash basins and exit gates "Wash hands with soap and water after touching animals and before eating" i) Signage and Nature Kingdom entry gate- "No food or drink" j) Teachers/carers to ensure that students only eat in approved areas (follow signage) and practice good hygiene 	
#3	<p>Animal Bite/Scratch</p> <p>Insect Bites/Stings</p>	<p>First Aid Incident or Medical Treated Incident sustained by direct contact with an animal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Area monitored at all times by either staff or volunteers b) Sanctuary keepers trained in the safe handling of animals c) Temperament of animals closely monitored by trained staff. Any animals displaying signs of aggression or a likelihood to cause injury are removed from guest interaction area d) Teachers/Carers to supervise students at all times e) Appointed first aid staff trained in treatment of bite/scratch wounds f) Students advised how to correctly interact with animals by staff if required g) First Aid kits available throughout the sanctuary h) First Aid room available for use 	Low
#4	<p>Slip, Trips & Falls - resulting from uneven surfaces, slippery surfaces due to weather etc.</p>	<p>First Aid Incident sustained from slipping, tripping, or falling</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Walkways around area b) Area well organised c) Compliant lighting levels d) Tree roots removed as needed e) Footpaths clearly marked with curbing f) Mulch is used to cover non path areas g) Gravel is placed along pathway and packed in to remove slip hazards h) Wet slippery paths are isolated and/or barricaded with appropriate safety signage to advise guests, and cleaned appropriately i) Staff only areas locked, and appropriate signage displayed j) Teachers/Carers to supervise students at all times k) Education officers brief students on walking/not running through sanctuary at start of visit 	Low

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> l) Education officer to supervise students at all times m) Education officer first aid trained and certified n) Appointed first aid staff trained o) Mini first aid kit kept with Education Officer p) First Aid kits available throughout the sanctuary q) First Aid room available for use 	
#5	Bodies of water – unintentional falls into bodies of water	First Aid Incident or Medical Treated Incident arising due to slipping, tripping, or falling into bodies of water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Walkways around area b) Area well organised c) Compliant lighting levels d) Fencing and barriers around area e) Wet slippery paths are isolated and/or barricaded with appropriate safety signage to advise guests, and cleaned appropriately f) Staff only areas locked, and appropriate signage displayed g) Teachers/Carers to supervise students at all times 	Low
#6	Observing in Exhibits	First Aid Incident or Medical Treated Incident arising due falling into an exhibit, and/or putting body parts in, over or through exhibit fencing/barriers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Walkways around area b) Area well organised c) Compliant lighting levels d) Fencing and barriers around area e) Staff only areas locked, and appropriate signage displayed f) Teachers/Carers to supervise students at all times g) Education officers brief students on the importance of not climbing into or over, or entering an animals exhibit at the start of the visit h) Education officers brief students on the importance of not throwing/dropping items into animal exhibits at start of visit i) If a student or item has fallen into exhibit, alert a sanctuary team member immediately recognisable by khaki uniform or white retail shirt with LPKS logo) who will send a sanctuary wide two-way radio message to alert all team members of the issue. LPKS Staff with keys to the exhibit will attend the call and assist 	Low

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> j) Appointed first aid staff trained and certified k) First Aid kits available throughout the sanctuary l) First Aid room available for use 	
#7	Lost Group Members - Student, Teacher and/or Chaperone separated from group		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Teachers/Carers to supervise students at all times b) Advise a sanctuary team member (recognisable by khaki uniform or white retail shirt with LPKS logo) who will send a sanctuary wide two-way radio message to alert all team members of the missing person. Missing persons will be reunited with their group in a general meeting space (Souvenirs, Sleepy Koala, Riverside Cafe) 	Low
#8	Heat & UV Exposure	Prolonged or intense exposure to high temperatures leading to heat-related illnesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) School/Parents advised to bring water when visiting sanctuary b) Access to cool drinking water c) Electrolytic powder and ice blocks available to students displaying signs of dehydration or heat related illness d) Teachers/Carers to supervise students at all times e) Teachers/Carers to rotate between indoor/outdoor tasks f) Teachers/Carers to ensure to take regular breaks in cool shaded areas g) Undercover shaded areas throughout sanctuary h) Education venue spaces undercover/shaded i) Appointed first aid staff trained in treatment of heat related illness j) First Aid room available for use k) School/Parents recommended to ensure students wear hats when visiting the sanctuary l) School/Parents recommended to bring SPF30+ sunscreen when visiting sanctuary m) SPF30+ Sunscreen available 	Low

#9	Emergency Evacuation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Bollards, barriers, walls etc. protecting gas lines, electrical equipment etc. b) Fire equipment e.g., extinguishers, hose reels, blankets, sprinklers located throughout sanctuary c) Fire doors located throughout sanctuary d) Teachers/Carers to supervise students at all times e) All staff trained in emergency evacuation f) Emergency assembly points allocated g) Air horns will alert visitors and staff to emergency evacuation h) Communication between staff via 2-way radio to coordinate evacuations i) Visitors to follow all emergency evacuation instructions given by LPKS staff 	Medium
#10	Severe, extreme weather – tree/branch fall, natural disasters	First Aid Incident or Medical Treated Incident arising due to severe weather	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Weather conditions monitored by staff through visual checks and weather warnings/apps b) High Risk Exhibits & Show closures due to severe weather c) Sanctuary closed due to extreme weather d) Sheltered areas available for use e) Teachers/Carers to supervise students at all times 	Low