

# PLANNING FAQs

# Bullswool Farm Park

## **Can we visit to see what you offer?**

Yes, teachers are very welcome to come and visit and see our facility. There is no need to book or contact us about this, just come any time during our usual opening hours.

## **What time should our group get there?**

Whatever suits your group. The Farm Park opens at 10am, but if your group wishes to come earlier, that's fine, just let us know when you book. There's a play area in our yard where early arrivals can play and keep themselves entertained while the rest of the group arrives.

## **What's the usual format?**

Usually, groups arrive between 9.30 - 10.30am. Children have a snack before visit begins. Supervisor meets with Farm Park Manager, and discuss when group wishes to start visit. Welcome given, handwash and toilet locations explained. Talk on Safety and how to interact with animals is given. Parents are briefed on their role. Children are given animal food, and feeder scoops. Group guided to Small Animal Courtyard, where they feed Miniature horses. Then they move into the Farm Yard area, where there are numerous different animals to feed. Groups are encouraged to stay in this area until each child has gone to all the feeding stations in the Farm Yard. Group then progresses to the Play Area, and can feed the larger animals in adjacent paddocks. Group gradually moves around walkway, and finishes at our Lookout. In this area, children have the option of going in with, and feeding, our alpacas. Return to yard and picnic area. Most groups have lunch before leaving. If "extras" are required, such as talks on curriculum topics by the Farm Park Manager, these are usually done after children have finished walking around Farm Park. We are happy to provide extra talks or learning activities, please just discuss your learning objectives, and we will be able to cater something to fit your needs.

## **What do we do if it's raining?**

We are an open-air activity. If weather is very wet, groups usually choose to postpone their visit. Usually this is done on morning of proposed visit.

## **Do we go around the farm in one big group?**

Yes. There is plenty of room for even really large groups to spread out in.

## **How long will the visit take?**

Usually, between 2.5 - 3.5 hours.

## **Will there be any baby animals when we visit?**

Bullswool Farm is a working farm, with several different breeding programmes in place. There are always baby animals here, at all times of the year.

## **Do the children get to feed the animals?**

Yes! Our experience is very hands-on, and the children can feed all the animals in the Farm Park. We are generous with providing animal food, because we feel this aspect of the visit is important. We especially aim to encourage the more reserved and timid children to get involved, and having plenty of animal food to share out among the children helps achieve that.

## **Can we bring our own food?**

Yes. We do not sell human food at the park, just a small range drinks and ice-creams.

## **Is there somewhere we can leave our bags?**

Yes. They can be placed in our Reception Area, or our Birthday Room.

## **Can prams be pushed around the Farm?**

Yes. The last part of the walkway, towards our Lookout does get steep, but any able-bodied person can get a pram up to it, or simply miss that part of the walkway.

## **Are you easy to find?**

Yes. We are situated between Paeroa and the Karangahake Gorge. Our turn-off up to Rahu Rd is well-signposted off SH2, with huge tourism brown signs. Rahu Road is the original stagecoach road that went through to Waihi, and is historic and beautiful... and long, winding, and the last bit is gravel. Plenty of signs are placed along the road to show where to go (and encourage people to keep driving!).

## **Can buses make it up your winding, gravel road?**

Yes. We've had countless buses up our road, including super-sized ones, that are over the usual NZ bus length.

## **What do we need to know about payment?**

- Payment on day is usual, and preferred. Receipts are issued on all payments. We accept EFTPOS and cheques. Individual payment from each parent is fine, and collection method can be discussed on day.
- No previously issued discount coupons or vouchers can be used during visit, unless by prior arrangement.
- Bookings can be postponed or cancelled by the school without incurring a penalty.

**Bullswool Farm Park, 240 Rahu Rd, Karangahake**

**Phone (07) 862 8843 - Email: [info@bullswoolfarm.co.nz](mailto:info@bullswoolfarm.co.nz)**

**Web: [www.bullswoolfarm.co.nz](http://www.bullswoolfarm.co.nz) - Bookings essential for school groups**