

Field Trips

The Henderson Heritage Trail.

Best parking for this is in the car park by the Coronation Bridge, the large car park by Cranwell Park, or the large car park by the Falls Hotel. Incorporating the walk with a picnic lunch at Falls or Cranwell Park could allow the walk to extend over lunchtime. It takes around an hour and a half to complete a circuit covering the Coronation Bridge, Corbans Winery, the Anglican Church, Mill Cottage, around Cranwell Park to the Falls Hotel then through the main Street to look at Catherine Street and the original site of the Falls, the railway station and back to Coronation Bridge but that is obviously dependant on pace. To avoid going through the CBD and to save time you may consider starting at the bridge and having your bus meet you at the Falls Park cutting out a few sites.

Toilets are available at the recreation centre and there are also public toilets in Ratanui St. which would take you a little off route.

The Falls Hotel

This may be incorporated into the historic walk (see above). If you want to take students inside you must contact the management first. If you can visit outside busy times the manager may allow you to take the students through the main corridor. This is very worthwhile as there are some historic photographs on the walls and students can see more of the quality of the restoration. Please keep groups small and tightly supervised. The upstairs of the building is not suitable for student visits but teachers should make a separate trip to look at the Boardroom.

Falls Park is linked to the aquatic centre by McLeod's Bridge designed by prominent Karekare artist, John Edgar.

Contact the hotel restaurant and café manager, Joanna Smith, by phoning 8350070 or faxing 8350071. Please remember the needs of their business must come first.

Tui Glen

The current contact at Waitakere City Council is Renee Lambert in the Parks Department. There is ample parking and it will easily accommodate buses. Now the camp ground is closed privacy is no longer an issue. A visit to Tui Glen could be combined with the Henderson Heritage Trail, the library or recreation centre or the walk along the stream bank which takes in the walk of trees. Tui Glen has public toilets.

Harbourview.

Contact Renee Lambert or Melanie Laas.

This is public open space but there are safety issues around the presence of horses on the land. It is a big site so it would pay to think about what you want to focus on and choose your approach accordingly. For example you may want to look at the end near the motorway to consider use of the open space or the other end if your focus is on historical sites such as the gun emplacements. Your council contact will help.

There are toilets in the town centre but please warn the students that there are no public toilets on the site itself.

Ambrico Place

Visits to this residential area need to be handled with respect for the privacy of residents. It may be best to conduct a guided tour on which the students remain on the bus. The tour could also take in the New Lynn Civic Centre, the transport hub serving bus and rail and the Lynmall shops.

Council may be able to provide a guide but that will depend on timing and work pressure. Contact Janet Cole, Cathy Kenkel or Renee Lambert.

Hoani Waititi Marae

Any visit needs to be arranged well in advance. The contact person is Ngareta Renata. You can write to her at Hoani Waititi Marae box 20117 Glen Eden or contact her by phone on 818-2323. There needs to be a purpose for the visit and students need to be well-briefed on appropriate behaviour. The marae is an excellent and well-established facility and students will have a worthwhile experience if they visit. A koha or donation is always appropriate. While the marae can be seen from Parris Park it is difficult to get a good impression of it without going on. You must also know that even a well-planned visit may be disrupted by a tangi.

There are other marae in the city and a list is in the resource section of this folder. Information about marae and Maori issues may be obtained from Council through Warahi Paki or Georgina Parata.

Waikumete Cemetery

Before visiting the cemetery contact the cemetery manager. Phone 8185615 or 8184407. The best places to start your visit are either at the main entrance (ensure students are respectful especially if there is a funeral in progress), or at the Glen Eden entrance on Waikumete Road. This entrance gives ready access to the oldest part of the cemetery. The railway is just across the road from the cemetery gate so that students will be following the route the deceased took when coffins were brought out in special carriages. There are toilets there and near the top of the hill. The ones near the entrance would need to be opened for your group so arrange that through cemetery staff or Friends of Waikumete.

Do not visit the cemetery without contacting the "Friends". They have amazing knowledge and are wonderful guides. They are volunteers so may not always be available.

Respect the cultural diversity of your students. Many will have particular customs relating to cemeteries. For example Maori children must be given the opportunity to wash their hands on the way out of the cemetery.

General

Every field trip requires a risk analysis and management form. Ratios of 1 adult to 7 students should be acceptable but teachers will know their own students and what is appropriate in line with their school policy.