

Guiding you in the right direction >



General Information

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Welcome...

Mackay Regional Council is one of the fastest growing regions in Queensland. Covering the areas Sarina, Mirani, Mackay and surrounding districts, it extends 7261 square kilometres.

With a strong community focus, Mackay Regional Council is passionate about educating the region's younger generations on what their local council does. Therefore, we are pleased to offer a wide variety of school tours at a number of our departments and facilities, which have been designed to complement your school's curriculum.

Whether your class is currently studying history, the environment, science, tourism or governance, we can cater our school tours to your educational needs.

Inside this information kit you will find everything you need to know from available activities, times, information on what is covered, what to bring, contact persons and any pricing costs if applicable.

Make a day of it and plan a handful of council school sessions or tours on the same day!

Note: Enquiry forms are located in the back of the kit.

Mackay Regional Council offers sessions and activities at the following:

- > Artspace Mackay
- > Aquatic Facilities
- > Botanic Gardens
- > Council - Local Government
- > Environment
- > Greenmount Homestead
- > Health & Regulatory
- > Human Resources
- > Libraries
- > MECC
- > Museums
- > Sarina Sugar Shed
- > Water & Waste Services

Why not make a day of it?

Take advantage and book a few of these great specialised tours and sessions on the same day!



Artspace Mackay

Mackay's very own artist hub.



Artspace Mackay provides free educational gallery tours and activities for students upon request for each exhibition at Artspace Mackay.

Tours aim to include content that will meet your class needs and complement teaching and learning programs.

What do we have on offer?

- > Interactive tours of each gallery exhibition at Artspace Mackay.
- > Viewings of selections from the artists book collection can also be arranged.
- > Tours can be tailored to suit the requirements of your group linked with school curriculum.



Pricing:

Tours are free of charge.

What do students need to bring?

High school students > note pad and pen.

Availability:

Gallery tours for school groups are available on the hour from Tuesday to Friday between 10am to 2pm.

Planning to book a tour at Artspace Mackay?

A minimum of 15 days notice is required to secure a guide's services for tours and viewings of the artists book collection, so please plan ahead for your visit.

Location:

Artspace Mackay, Gordon Street.

Contact details:

For further information please phone the Public Programs Officer on 4961 9737.





Botanic Gardens

Educational programs for school students from Prep to Year 12 entitled **Planted**.



Explore a range of activities designed to develop curiosity in young people and that are both fun and informative.

What do we have on offer?

- > Exciting outdoor, real-life experiences involving exploring, investigating and using all senses.
- > Get your class involved in a range of investigations designed by a teacher and linked to your current curriculum or class interest.

Investigative topics/tours include:

- > Creature Features: Observing mini-beasts
- > Nature's marvels: Living things and life cycles
- > Habitats: Wetland wonders and rainforests
- > Kitchen gardens and composting
- > Ecosystem changes and endangered species
- > Turn over a new leaf: Plant biodiversity
- > Bush tucker and useful plants
- > Drawing and design in nature
- > Dinosaurs in the Coal Garden
- > History and culture of the Lagoons

Pricing:

Planted Education Officer guided sessions - \$5 per student (valid until 01/07/2014)

Self-guided walks - free!

We can help you devise self-guided activities or learning experiences to suit your school, your children and your interests.

We come to you!

'Planted Elsewhere' - Get your students involved in our outreach program which creates learning experiences in your space. We are able to visit your school to present information on a variety of topics including:

- > Wildlife and wetland wonders: inspect mini-beasts and macro-invertebrates
- > Simple or compound? Discover leaves, their shapes, names and margins.
- > Life cycles of plants, moths, butterflies and other creatures.
- > Plant a seed and grow a mind: seed displays including dispersal methods. Sow a seed in a recycled paper pot and watch it grow.

Location and Website:

9 Lagoon Street, West Mackay QLD 4740
www.mackayregionalbotanicgardens.com.au

Booking a tour or just visiting?

Always inform us when you are planning a visit to the Botanic Gardens, whether you wish to be self-guided or plan to participate in an organised tour, our staff should always be made aware of your intended visit.

Contact details:

For further information, to book a school tour or if planning to visit the Gardens phone the Planted Education Officer on 4952 7300.





Local Government

Find out what services council offers to the community.

Introduce your students to local government and how it operates. Take a tour of the council building in conjunction with school curriculum to show students what really happens at a Local Government level.

Learn about the services and facilities that Mackay Regional Council provides for our local community.

What do we have on offer?

- > **Interactive tours** of the main council administration building on Gordon Street.
- > **Mapping sessions** - students can learn how town maps are generated and where they have progressed over the years as well as gain a closer look at council's MiMaps program.
- > **Watch an informative DVD** to gain further insight to the process of Local Government practices and operations.
- > **Meet the Mayor or councillors** - students are able to meet the councillors and Mayor (Note: this must be pre-arranged and is subject to their availability).

Pricing:

Tours are free of charge.

What do students need to bring?

Teachers are to supply any educational material they see fit.

Length of tour:

Approximately one hour.

Availability:

Tours of the council building are available any day of the week, preferably in the morning.

Planning to book a tour?

Schools need to book their council tour in advance. Please provide at least two weeks notice before your requested date.

Location:

Mackay Regional Council
Civic Precinct - Gordon Street, Mackay.



Contact details:

For further information or to book a tour, phone the Corporate Communications team on 1300 MACKAY (622 529).





Natural Environment

Educational programs and activities for school students.

The Natural Environment – a fundamental aspect of nearly all science and geography units. Find out how council can help you deliver these curriculum units with a wide range of services and expert partners to assist learning outcomes. All school years can be catered for.

What do we have on offer?

- > **Field trips and class room visits** – We can help you plan a field trip or run class room presentations and demonstrations for you.
- > **Wetland Walkabout** – The perfect location outside a classroom to teach a number of different units. Ready-made curriculum based material is available (Gold coin donation required).
- > **On-site projects** – Have an idea for an on-site project that has links to the natural environment? Want to plant out a future forest or clean up a site? We can help.
- > **Mackay Natural Environment Centre** – This recently upgraded site provides a perfect place for school groups to learn about sustainability initiatives, native plants, life cycles and an opportunity to take part in propagating native plants.
- > **Events** – We can help facilitate participation in events such as National Tree Day, Bird Week, Mackay Coastal Clean Up etc.

Pricing:

Tours are free.

What do students need to bring?

- > Hats
- > Footwear
- > Sunscreen
- > Any other educational resources required by the teacher

Availability:

Monday to Friday.

Please arrange a suitable time upon booking

Planning to book a tour?

A minimum of two weeks notice is required to secure and book a school tour or session.

Contact details:

For further information or to book a tour phone the Natural Environment Officer on 4961 9930 or 0438 141 631.

Orchid House

Why not extend your school trip to include a tour of the beautiful Orchid House at Queens Park. For stunning orchids in all shapes and sizes, students will love to visit the display that is both educational and fun! For further information contact the Orchid House Educational Officer on 0407 131 838.





Greenmount Homestead

Exploring Mackay's heritage.

Developed by Albert Cook on the cattle run first taken up by pioneer Captain John Mackay and gifted to the city by the Cook Family in 1984, Greenmount Homestead is one of Mackay's most valued historic attractions. The grounds contain a number of buildings including a 1915 Queenslander homestead, which houses a collection of more than 20,000 historical items, along with grounds that feature a formal front garden, fernery and arbour.

The Homestead provides a fun and informative location for school tours and is a great opportunity for students to compare their lives with those who lived many years before their time, providing a unique insight into three generations of the Cook family.

What do we have on offer?

- > Interactive tours of the homestead and surrounding grounds.
- > Take advantage of the surrounding park facilities which can be used for activities such as heritage games that teachers might wish to arrange.
- > Enjoy morning tea or afternoon tea under the large shady trees.
- > Activities at Greenmount Homestead integrate and complement current classroom learning with regards to the history of our local region.

Cost:

\$2 per student.

What do the students need to bring?

- > Hats
- > Shoes
- > Sunscreen
- > Water and lunch/morning tea
- > Educational material required by the teacher for the class

Length of tour:

Up to 90 minutes.

Availability:

Monday to Friday > 9.30am start

Location:

Greenmount Road, Walkerston
Five kilometres west of Walkerston.

Contact details:

For further information please phone the Greenmount and Museum Coordinator on 4959 2250 or 0437 832 933.



Health & Regulatory

Educational programs for school students.

The Health and Regulatory department of Mackay Regional Council provides interactive sessions with primary and secondary school students to inform them about a variety of topics including pet ownership, dengue fever, pest management and food hygiene.

What do we have on offer?

- > **Responsible pet ownership**
(suited to all primary school year levels)
- > **Dengue fever and mosquito control**
(suited to grade 3 and above)
- > **Food hygiene in the home and school**
(suited to grade 7 students and high school home economics students)

All sessions are tailored to the request of your particular class requirements.

Pricing:

Free of charge.

What do the students need to bring?

- > Students do not require any materials.

Length of sessions:

- > The sessions are generally 20 to 30 minutes.
- > The food hygiene sessions run for one hour.

Availability

Sessions are available Tuesday to Friday at a time suitable to you.

Planning to book a session?

All sessions must be booked three to four weeks in advance due to availability.



Contact details:

For further information or to book a tour contact Coordinator Environmental & Education Services on 4961 9158.





Libraries

Educational programs for school students.

Mackay Regional Council operates five library locations around the region. All branches welcome visits from school groups, providing an extensive and dynamic range of educational programs and resources relevant to students of all ages.

What do we have on offer?

- > Educational and interactive tours around the library location of your choice.
- > Each tour can be customised to the particular educational requirement of the class.
- > Each library location provides a large variety of resources for students including:
 - Wide range of literature for all levels (classic, contemporary and popular series).
 - Information suitable for primary and secondary students in our junior, young adult and adult non-fiction collections.
 - Music CDs, audio books, DVDs and CD-ROMs.
 - Bolinda eAudiobooks.
 - History Bits and Kits - resources are available for loan by schools and teachers, and are designed to promote the history and heritage of the Mackay region. Each kit contains 10 photographs, a powerpoint presentation and an information booklet.

Pricing:

Tours are free of charge.

What do students need to bring?

Any educational resources as specified by the teacher. Note: Class membership cards can be organised for the visit providing sufficient notice has been given

Length of tour:

Approximately 30 minutes with library staff. Additional time optional with teacher assistance.

Locations:

Gordon White Library:

Phillip Street, Mt Pleasant - phone 4961 9300

Mackay City Library:

Civic Precinct, Alfred Street - phone 4961 9387

Mirani Library:

Victoria Street, Mirani - phone 4961 9231

Sarina Library:

65 Broad Street, Sarina - phone 4961 9297

Walkerston Library:

Dutton Street, Walkerston - phone 4959 2545.

Planning to book a tour?

A minimum of three weeks notice is required to secure and book a school tour or session.

Contact details:

To book a tour, simply call Gordon White or Mackay City libraries and ask to speak to a Young People's Services team member.





Sarina Sugar Shed

Your link to the Sugar Cane Industry.



Visit Australia's only fully operational miniature sugar-processing mill and distillery.

Sarina Sugar Shed provides educational and informative tours of this facility ideally suited to school students from primary to secondary age.

What do we have on offer?

- > Tour the facility where students will be excited to see the processes involved in producing sugar from sugar cane.
- > Students will have the opportunity to taste fairy floss and ginger beer.
- > If the tour is fully booked (25 or more participants) by a school then the tour guide can personalise the tour for the age of the students attending.

Pricing:

Tours cost \$8 per child
Group bookings: allows two teachers to tour for free.

What do the students need to bring?

Hat and any required academic material.

Availability:

Tours are available Monday to Saturday.

Length of tour:

Approximately one hour.

Tour times:

9.30am, 11am, 12.30pm and 2pm (Visitors will need to arrive 15 minutes prior to tour departure to avoid disappointment).

Planning to book a tour at the Sugar Shed?

You need to ensure your class is booked in advance, please note that bookings will not be secured until money is received.

Location:

Field of Dreams Parkland, Railway Square, Sarina (The Shed is situated just off the Bruce Highway, 37km south of Mackay).



Contact details:

For further information and bookings please phone the Sarina Sugar Shed Coordinator on 4943 2801, email info@sarinasugarshed.com.au or visit the website www.sarinasugarshed.com.au.



Museums

Exploring the region's history and culture.

Travel back in time and discover the significant history of our vibrant region at one of our three historical centres.

> Mackay Museum

Cost:

\$1 per student and \$3 for adults

What do the students need to bring?

Students need to bring along a pencil as worksheets are provided.

Length of tour:

1 to 1 1/2 hours.

Availability:

Tours are available Monday to Friday for up to groups of 40 students at any one time and run from one to one and a half hours in length.

Location:

3 Casey Avenue, South Mackay.

Contact details:

For further information and to book a tour please phone 4953 0002.

> Pioneer Valley Historical Centre

Cost:

\$1 per student and \$3 for adults

Availability:

Tours are available Monday to Friday from 9.30am to 2.30pm and run from 30 minutes to one hour in length.

Location:

Victoria Street, Mirani (behind Mirani Library).

Contact details:

For further information and to book a tour please phone 4961 9229 or 4961 9230.

> Sarina Historical Centre

Cost:

\$1 per student and \$3 for adults

Availability:

Tours are available Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9.30am to 2pm and run for approximately one hour.

(if you do require a tour on a Monday or Thursday this can be arranged, simply contact the Museum)

Location:

Field of Dreams Parkland, Railway Square, Sarina

Contact details:

For further details and to book a tour please phone 4956 2436 (business hours) or 4943 1926 (after hours).

Tours at all of Museums must be booked at least two weeks in advance.



Waste Services

Educational programs for school students.

Waste Services provide free educational programs and tours at the Materials Recovery Facility to all schools within the Mackay Regional Council area.

The waste education program aims to raise student awareness of waste issues and develop a clear understanding of the components of waste minimisation focusing on the 3R's: Reducing, Reusing and Recycling.

What do we have on offer?

- > Students get a first-hand look at the recycling sorting process at the Materials Recovery Facility.
- > Interactive classroom discussions about waste minimisation, adapted to meet all levels of school students.
- > Viewing and explanation of the sorting process through closed circuit television cameras.
- > Viewing of the operation live through glass windows that overlook the facility.

If classes are unable to participate in on-site tours, individual waste education sessions can be delivered in the classroom.

Pricing:

Tours are free of charge.

What do students need to bring?

Educational materials required by the teacher.

Length of tour:

Lower primary years > 30 minutes

Upper primary and secondary years > 45 minutes

Availability:

Monday to Friday from 9.30am

Planning to book a tour?

Please provide a minimum of two weeks notice to book and secure a tour of the Materials Recovery Facility or an education session at your school.

Location:

Materials Recovery Facility. Crichtons Road (off Connors Road), South Paget.

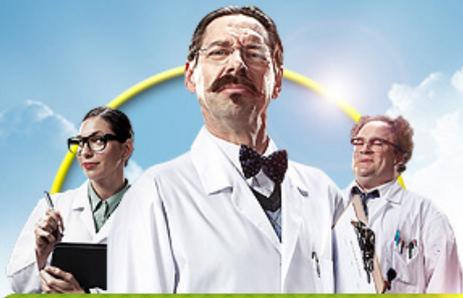
Waste Education Trailer

If classes are unable to participate in on-site tours at the Materials Recovery Facility, Mackay Regional Council Waste Services has developed a waste education trailer that is available for school visits. Bookings are essential.



Contact details:

For further information please phone the Waste Environmental Education Officer on 4961 9051.



WATCH THE FLOW OF YOUR H₂O

H₂O Education



Water Services

Watch the flow of your H₂O - It's not rocket science!

The H₂O Education Program is a fun, free and interactive program that teaches students the importance of water.

What do we have on offer?

> **Classroom visits** (available for primary and high school students) – A H₂O specialist is available to come to your school and provide a fun and interactive session in your classroom – all for free. The session provides students with all they need to know about H₂O including our local water story, the water cycle and the journey water takes to reach our taps. It also provides students with valuable information on water conservation practices around the home and at school. It is the perfect way to start, extend or culminate a classroom unit.

> **Water Savers Water Auditing Program** (available for primary and high school students) – The auditing program has been designed to help your school identify the areas where water is being wasted by performing a physical audit. The audit is a great way to get your entire school community involved in water monitoring and saving. The program also encourages schools to commit to reducing water consumption through the development of a water saving plan.

> **Facility Tours** (available to high school and upper primary school students) – Come along and visit one of our award winning facilities! If your interest is wastewater and water recycling then the Mackay South Water Recycling Facility is just for you! At this facility students will learn about the process involved in treating the city's wastewater to produce Class A recycled water for farm irrigation. If you simply just want to learn more about our drinking water and how

its treated, then book a tour at the Nebo Road Water Treatment Plant. At the plant students will be able to view the treatment process and will learn how water is cleaned and treated to a high quality for human consumption.

Note: Mackay South Water Recycling Facility tours are only available to high school students. Nebo Road Water Treatment Plant tours are only available for upper primary and high school students.

Pricing:

Classroom visits and tours are all free of charge.

What do students need to bring?

Teachers will be advised of requirements upon booking.

Length of tour:

Lower primary classroom session > 30 to 45 minutes
Upper primary classroom session > 45 minutes
Mackay South Water Recycling Facility tour > 45 minutes to one hour
Nebo Road Water Treatment Plant tour > 45 minutes to one hour

Availability:

The H₂O Education Program is available any weekday.

Planning to book a tour?

A minimum of two weeks notice is required to secure and book a session or tour.

Location and contact details:

To make a booking contact a H₂O specialist on 4961 9075 or 0448 858 268.



Enquiry form

Interested in any of the sessions or activities for your students?

Fill out the below form and return to Mackay Regional Council, staff will then be in contact to discuss further details and availability of your nominated tours and activities. **NOTE: For an immediate response, an enquiry form can also be completed online at www.mackay.qld.gov.au/education.**

School : _____

Contact name : _____

Phone : _____

Email : _____

Please indicate which council area and activities you require further information on.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Artspace Mackay | <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Regulatory | <input type="checkbox"/> Waste Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Botanic Gardens | <input type="checkbox"/> Libraries | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Council - Local Government | <input type="checkbox"/> MECC | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Environment | <input type="checkbox"/> Museums | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greenmount Homestead | <input type="checkbox"/> Sarina Sugar Shed | |

Please return this form to Mackay Regional Council via:

Fax: (07) 4944 2409 **Email:** council@mackay.qld.gov.au **Drop in:** Civic Precinct, Gordon St, Mackay.

Check out council's website education page

Council now has an interactive education page on their website. For education resources, activities for students and much more, visit www.mackay.qld.gov.au/education today!

