



BRIDGETOWN CAMP SCHOOL

“Where learning is fun”

To assist schools in developing the *Excursion Management Plan* required by the DOE policy *Excursions: Off School Site Activities*: <http://det.wa.edu.au/policies/detcms/policy-planning-and-accountability/policies-framework/policies/excursions-policy-and-procedures.en?cat-id=3457100>

I am pleased to supply the following information.

Colin Bygraves
Camp School Manager,
Bridgetown Camp School.

Valley of the Giants – Tree Top Walk Walpole – Nornalup National Park

Physical Address	Between Denmark and Walpole (off South Coast Highway)
Phone Number	98408263
Fax Number	98408132
Email Address	ttw@dec.wa.gov.au
Website Address	www.dec.wa.gov.au

Purpose of the excursion

The Tree Tops walkway was originally built to allow visitors to experience the forest without damaging the delicate root system of the trees. It was the first walk trail of its kind in the world – at 600 metres long and 40 metres high it allows a unique perspective of the forest, without impacting on the ground below. Interpretive signage makes for self guided walks.

Environment

The Tree Top Walk near Walpole gives awesome views over the grove of 400 year old red tingle trees known as the Valley of the Giants. And from the ground, standing beneath these majestic giants, breathing in the cool forest air, it is a humbling experience. Also making the Tree Top Walk truly unique is its structure. Most similar canopy walks around the world feature suspension bridge structures, which are not for the faint hearted. The Tree Top Walk however, is a series of sixty metre light weight steel trusses built on steel pylons to form a secure ramp which is wheelchair accessible. Adjacent to the walkway is a boardwalk through the Ancient Empire grove of veteran tingle trees which is home to the ‘giants’ after which the forest is named. Some of the trees here are up to 16 metres in circumference at the base. The boardwalk meanders around and sometimes through the old trees. It’s a peaceful experience with quiet spots to sit and reflect on the special nature of the tingle forest.

Transport

Transport is the responsibility of the school.
The site is reached by coach approx. 2½ hours from Bridgetown The Tree Tops Walk is situated

15 kilometres from Walpole.
Students' Capacity
The students will be guided by Tree Tops personnel. The site is suitable for all students and is wheel chair accessible. Students need to wear covered in shoes.
Supervisor/Supervisory Team
The Teacher in Charge is responsible for participants at all times. Tree Tops will provide a guide.
External Provider Information
Tree Tops is a Western Australian Government Department of Environment and Conservation facility and has Public Liability Insurance Policy NoR20-6935. Limit of Liability - A copy is kept on file at Bridgetown Camp School.
Supervision Strategies
The Teacher in Charge is responsible for managing on-site supervision strategies.
Identification of Excursion Participants
The Teacher in Charge is responsible for managing on-site supervision strategies.
Communication Strategies
Schools are expected to provide their own mobile telephone. Tree Tops contact number is 9840 8263.
Emergency Response Plan
As part of the briefing prior to commencement of the tour the Teacher in Charge will indicate the assembly point located at the front of the ticket office in case of an emergency. The Teacher in Charge is responsible for carrying the student medical information with them at all times. Teacher-in-charge to supervise students; The Teacher in Charge to co-ordinate evacuation should it be required. If an emergency vehicle is required, Walpole is situated 15 kilometres away. The Tree Tops Emergency Plan is held on file at the camp school.

Briefing Students and Supervisors

Tree Tops will brief students and staff at the commencement of the tour.

Other Relevant Details

Schools are responsible for providing information to parent/caregivers for their consent in accordance with the DOE policy Excursions: Off School Site Activities.

<http://det.wa.edu.au/policies/detcms/policy-planning-and-accountability/policies-framework/policies/excursions-policy-and-procedures.en?cat-id=3457100>

This policy includes:

- Student Health Form;
- Information Form for Parent/Guardian; and
- Parent/Guardian Consent Form.

Bridgetown CS information package and website <http://www.bridgetowncampschool.wa.edu.au> also includes the following forms which are relevant to conducting this excursion:

- Parent Information Form;
- Parent Consent and Contract Form;
- Medical and Water Based Authority form;
- Safety and Behaviour Policy; and a,
- Clothing and Equipment Checklist.

This information is valid until 31 January 2017