

**Hunter Valley Zoo Activity Risk Assessment**  
 For school and care groups to use for their excursions to Hunter Valley Zoo  
 Industry: Education

|   |  |                |  |
|---|--|----------------|--|
| Date  |  |                |  |
| Location  | Hunter Valley Zoo 138 Lomas Lane, Nulkaba NSW 2325 |                |  |
| Staff Member in Charge  |  | Contact Number |  |
| Other Personnel [list all other staff, parents, caregivers and/or volunteers] |  |                |  |
|   |  |                |  |

|                          |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|--|--|--|
| Name of School and Class |  |  |  |
| Number of Pupils         |  |  |  |

**Walking to and from transport**

| Activity          | Hazard Identification (Type/Cause)  | RISK           | Control Measure   |   |
|-------------------|---|----------------|---|---|
| Struck by Vehicle | The bus dropping the children off can drive around the ring road carpark and drop the students off directly at the entrance and arrange with the driver to pick them back up at the exit to minimise risk | <b>Extreme</b> | Supervision for the appropriate group numbers   |  |
| Uneven Footpath   | The road in the carpark is comprised of uneven gravel   | <b>Low</b>     | Remain on a direct path towards the entrance and ask the bus driver to pick up/drop off the students close to the entrance/exit |   |

**Pupils with special needs**

| Activity           | Hazard Identification (Type/Cause)  | RISK           | Control Measure                                     |  |
|--------------------|---|----------------|---|---|
| Health Emergencies | It is recommended carrying with you any medication required at all times. if a fridge is required for the medication please ask staff to keep it in our staff room fridge. In an emergency immediately call 000 and notify zoo staff. | <b>Extreme</b> | Do you have the required medication?                |   |
|                    |   |                | Do you have an emergency plan?                      |   |
|                    |   |                | Do you have trained personnel on hand at all times? |   |

**Walking around the zoo**

| Activity                      | Hazard Identification (Type/Cause)  | RISK       | Control Measure  |  |
|-------------------------------|---|------------|--|---|
| Uneven Footpath               | The zoo is comprised of semi-flat grounds of grass, gravel and compact dirt   | <b>Low</b> | Stay on the path recommended   |   |
|                               |   |            | Do not run, please walk  |   |
| Bites and Stings from insects | As you are outside bugs are everywhere, it is advised having the appropriate clothing and personal protective items | <b>Low</b> | Avoid areas with long grass and maintain supervision                     |   |
|                               |   |            | Wear shoes and protective clothing                                       |   |
|                               |   |            | Avoid sitting on the grass, please use the area reserved for your school |   |

| Activity            | Hazard Identification (Type/Cause)   | RISK     | Control Measure                    |  |
|---------------------|--|----------|------------------------------------|--|
| Exposure to the Sun | At Hunter Valley Zoo the temperatures reach the high 40s (celcius) in summer. please ensure every child has a hat, sunscreen, sunglasses and protective clothing. Please stay in the shade where possible. | Moderate | Does every child have a hat?       |  |
|                     |  |          | Do the children have sunscreen on? |  |
| Dams                | On the premises we have three (3) large natural dams. All are fully enclosed with Australian Pool Panel Fencing.   | Extreme  | Supervise children at all times    |  |
| Staff Only Areas    | There are areas within the zoo which are labelled staff only. For everyones safetey please do not go into these areas.   | Low      | Supervise children at all times    |  |



Observation of Animals

| Activity         | Hazard Identification (Type/Cause)   | RISK     | Control Measure   |   |
|------------------|--|----------|---|---|
| Bird Bite        | At Hunter Valley Zoo there are multiple bird exhibits containing inquisitive parrots. Children get excited and want to pat the birds or try to touch with their fingers or sticks they may find on the ground. This quite often results in a bite from the birds trying to get the seed or sticks. They also often see that wriggly finger as a tasty worm. Please supervise children and ensure they do not stick their fingers or objects into cages. In the walkthrough aviary ensure children only feed the lorikeets using the ice cream cone provided and not their hands. Bird food can be purchased from the office for \$2 a bag. | Moderate | Ensure children only feed the walkthrough lorikeets with the ice cream cone provided or do not feed them at all |  |
|                  |  |          | Ensure Children do not stick fingers into   |   |
| Farmyard Animals | At Hunter Valley Zoo we have an interactive farmyard section where children can pat the animals and feed them if they have purchased food from the office. The goats get super excited the same as the children do often resulting in the animals jumping up to get the food, chewing on clothes and getting into everything. Please be prepared when entering the farmyard for excitement.  | Low      | Please ensure children are respecting other guests in the farmyard section                                      |   |
|                  |  |          | Enter the exhibit calmly  |   |
|                  |  |          | Ensure children do not try to ride the animals  |   |
|                  |  |          | Ensure children do not run in this exhibit  |   |

| Activity        | Hazard Identification (Type/Cause)  | RISK     | Control Measure  |  |
|-----------------|---|----------|--|--|
| Kangaroo Yard   | At Hunter Valley Zoo there is an interactive kangaroo walkthrough exhibit where you can pat the kangaroos and feed them if you have purchased food from the office. Kangaroos are a very timid species, please ensure the children approach the animals slowly and calmly.  | Low      | Do not corner the kangaroos, this may result in a fight response where the animal could kick or bite |  |
|                 |   |          | Ensure the children do not run or chase the kangaroos  |  |
| Monkey Exhibits | We have many species of exotic monkeys, monkeys can harbour zoonotic diseases which humans can catch. Stay behind the stand-off barriers and do not try to feed the monkeys over the barriers.  | Moderate | Stay behind the stand-off barriers   |  |
| Malayan Tapir   | Berani our Malayan Tapir is blind, he cannot see where he is going only smell to find his way around. Tapirs scent mark their territory by spraying their scent backwards which sometimes misses the tree and it shoots out the exhibit fencing to where people are standing. We have signs on display where this occurs. Nothing dangerous will result just a smelly, wet and most likely upset child. | Low      | Take care whilst observing   |  |



Sitting Area

| Activity       | Hazard Identification (Type/Cause)  | RISK            | Control Measure   |  |
|----------------|---|-----------------|---|--|
| Reserved areas | There is a reserved area for your school booking for the children to rest, re-group and eat. Please ensure children only sit on the picnic tables in your area which is labelled. | <b>Moderate</b> | Ensure children do not push the buttons on the BBQs   |  |
|                |   |                 | Take care around BBQs that have just been used as they may still be hot                         |  |
|                |   |                 | The seats do not have backs, supervise children so they sit properly and do not fall backwards. |  |



Complete - Staff Member in charge to tick and sign off.

Sign: