

Frequently Asked Questions (and Answers!)

How much does it cost to come to Kiwi North?

LEOTC visits cost \$ 5 per child. This includes entry to Kiwi North (both the nocturnal house and the museum, and the heritage park) as well as your specified workshop. Accompanying teachers and adults are free in the ratio of 1:6 (i.e. 1 free adult for every 6 children). Adults accompanying a child with special needs are free. Any other adults above the ratio are most welcome and will be charged at the same rate as children (\$5.00) which is a 50% discount over normal admission prices.

During Museums Free week (16-20 May) teachers can bring a class for free. Booking is essential though as this was a hugely popular event last year and places fill up fast.

For details of public admission charges, venue hire and other costs, please contact bookings.

How many students can I bring to Kiwi North?

The facilities here can accommodate up to 2 classes at a time. Maximum capacity is 80. Some of the heritage buildings have a smaller capacity, so please check with the Education Team.

How long does an education programme take?

You can comfortably spend the whole day here and still not be bored! Most of the workshops are 2 hours in length. This does not include touring time, so usually our programmes run for between 2 and 4 hours, with time in between for morning tea and lunch. You can discuss all your requirements with the Education Team. If you are travelling a distance to reach Kiwi North, we want you to get the most out of your visit, so speak to us about what else you can do to enhance your visit. We have it all here on site – in one safe, child-friendly place.

Education services are usually offered Monday – Friday 9:30 am – 4:00pm.

Other considerations and restrictions may apply to off-site education activities.

What can we do at Kiwi North?

We have lots of different programmes and workshops with hands-on activities to suit all ages and abilities. There is the new nocturnal kiwi house and visitor centre, the museum and the heritage trail of historic buildings. There are bush walks, play areas and, for a small additional cost, you could have a ride on the old engines, mini trains or tractors.

Do you have a café at Kiwi North?

We have hospitality services in the visitor centre at Kiwi North- serving tea, coffee and a range of snacks, ices and light refreshments. Visiting teachers are offered complimentary tea and coffee at the Education Centre. We do not have catering facilities though, so visitors will need to bring a packed lunch.

Can Kiwi North come and visit our school?

Teachers and syndicates are welcome to have a guided tour (free of charge) of the facilities at Kiwi North. Simply contact the Education Team to make an appointment. A member of the Education Team may be able to come to your school to present to your syndicate. However, our teaching takes place at Kiwi North or outside the classroom at selected environmental venues e.g. Matakohē/Limestone Island.

The Education Team also supports other museums in the Whangarei District and in 2011 will be available free of charge to work with groups visiting the Ann Verdcourt exhibition at Whangarei Art Museum. Please contact the Education Team for further details.

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Is it the same as when I came 3 years ago?

No! It will be totally different. There is a new nocturnal kiwi house and Visitor Centre and the Education Centre has been refurbished. There is a completely new suite of programmes for 2011, plenty of new exhibitions and exciting extra events such as Museums Free week to keep you occupied! However, if you think you might have missed something, please contact the Education Team to discuss your concerns.

What ages is this suitable for?

Age suitability is specified on all our educational programmes. LEOTC activities cover both Primary and Secondary schools. For ECE education please contact bookings.

Can Kiwi North help with transport costs?

Yes we can! Kiwi North has secured funding from ASB which your school may be able to access provided that certain criteria are met. Please contact the Education Team with your enquiry.

What happens if it is raining?

Please contact the Education Team in the first instance. Kiwi North has its own little microclimate and is often unaffected by extremes of weather that other districts might experience! Multiple venues are indoors and we provide umbrellas so that visitors can move about the heritage park without getting wet. We do ask that all schoolchildren should plan to bring a jacket and appropriate footwear, especially if involved in environmental education. The Education Centre is a large enough space to accommodate school groups at meal times.