



The following information provides background information for teachers planning a school excursion to SEA LIFE Sydney Aquarium. This information will assist teachers to prepare a RISK ASSESSMENT PLAN for their excursion. For more information contact the SEALIFE Sydney Customer Service Team.

About SEA LIFE Sydney

Combining active, hands-on learning with fascinating educational talks and an opportunity to have an up close and personal encounter with a variety of sea creatures, a visit to SEA LIFE is an educational experience like no other! SEA LIFE caters for every ability level and learning style, using a unique combination of auditory, visual, and kinaesthetic learning opportunities. Children are encouraged to have supervised, hands-on contact with live sea creatures in the touch pool which is often the highlight of the trip for many children.

About Merlin Entertainments Group

Merlin Entertainments Group is the leading name in location based, quality family entertainment. Now the world's number two visitor attraction operator, it aims to deliver unique, memorable, and rewarding experiences to its 67 million visitors worldwide, through its iconic global and local brands, and the commitment and passion of its managers and employees. Merlin has over 130 attractions, in 25 countries, across three continents - Europe, North America and Asia.

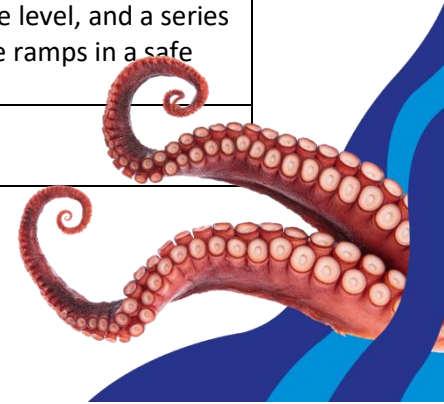
Arrival and departure

Schools should plan to arrive at least 15 minutes before the allocated entry period. This will allow time for check in, to have a quick food break and to use the bathrooms prior to entry. Group entry to SEA LIFE Sydney Aquarium is staggered to avoid congestion in the Exhibit Area and to satisfy capacity regulations. Groups exit the Aquarium and assemble outside. In the interests of public safety, groups are not permitted to gather in the foyer or any of the exhibit areas.

Access to the Aquarium

Entry and exit to the Aquarium is via the front doors located next to the Admissions Kiosk (1min walk from SL café). Exhibits are on one level, and a series of ramps gives access to underwater viewing opportunities. Students are advised to always walk, to not block corridors, and to use the ramps in a safe and responsible manner.

Legal requirements and attraction information



Public Liability	Available upon request
Food Safety and Hygiene	The food units operate in accordance with the Food Act 2003 and are regularly inspected by the local Environmental Health Department and undergo regular internal health and safety audits carried out by Merlin Entertainments.
Attraction Staff / Staff identification	All attraction staff wear uniforms and name badges for easy identification. All staff to reference checks and WWCC.
Risk assessment	
Vehicle traffic	N/A.
Weather protection / Sun safety	The attraction is indoors so weather protection is not required. The only exception may be when groups are asked to wait outside while tickets are collected on arrival to avoid crowding in the entrance way. We recommend for school groups to bring hats and water bottles
Water	There are display tanks throughout the attraction and touch pools; supervision is required at all times.
Slips/ Trips/ Falls	The following hazards should be noted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trips caused by looking in the display and not at the floor • Wet flooring • Steps and stairs
High level areas	Supervision is required and there is no climbing on the barriers and theming.
Strobe lighting	Strobe lighting effects are used in certain areas throughout the attraction.
Reduced lighting	Care should be taken due to reduced lighting in certain areas.
Enclosed spaces	Some parts of the attractions could make individuals feel confined due to being dark, warm and humid. However, there are no areas in the attraction that can be defined as a confined space.
Attraction specific risk	Creatures, stings and bites: Do not place hands into any of the display tanks. All visitors must wash their hands if they have contact with any creatures or water. Extra care is required for children sensitive to this environment. Any children with allergies should not touch our rockpool exhibit





Door entrapment	Beware of closing doors on fingers etc
Rides	Please refer to the Penguin Ride Expedition information pack for further detail.
Attraction arrangements	
Arrival arrangements	If you are bringing a group by minibus or coach and need to drop off and pick up your group, you can utilise the bus bay located along Wheat Road.
First aid	SEA LIFE Sydney has always trained first aiders onsite during opening hours.
Emergency planning	SEA LIFE Sydney has a contingency plan in the event of an emergency. Listen to staff instructions during the event of an emergency. The emergency plan has been developed in conjunction with the local emergency services who have regular meetings regarding emergency procedures.
Fire safety	In the event of an emergency please follow all evacuation procedures.
Wheelchair access	Sealife Sydney is accessible to wheelchair users. Please see our accessibility guide Accessibility SEA LIFE Sydney Aquarium for any to answer any questions you may have on your upcoming visit to SEA LIFE Sydney Aquarium
Lost children	Please report to member of staff. Staff are trained to handle lost children across site.
Unruly children	The attraction has regulations displayed at the entrance. Staff are trained to enforce these regulations for the benefit of all guests. Staff will instruct children to behave where necessary. Children should be always supervised by an adult.
Age / height restrictions	The minimum age restriction for children to enter the attraction without an adult is 16; any child 15 and under must be accompanied by someone over the age of 18.
Lockers / storage facilities	There are no lockers or storage facilities for security reasons.
Eating facilities	SEA LIFE Sydney does not have a designated space for school's lunch breaks. Typically, groups will eat outside near the wharf – located just upon exiting.
Welfare facilities	There are toilets located on entry, at our Sub-Antarctic Penguin Exhibit and at the exit (next to SL café)
Additional costs	We have a SEALIFE Giftshop and Café at the end of the attraction. We are a cashless facility; therefore, we recommend preparing a way of payment to purchase any items prior to visit.
Attraction signposting	SEA LIFE Sydney is a free flow attraction with designed to take you past all our exhibits. We would therefore recommend splitting and exploring in smaller groups with assigned



	meeting points at certain times. Please note: Once your class has entered the attraction you will not be able to leave and then re-enter.
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The purpose of this document is to enable schools / groups to use the information provided for the development of visit risk assessments to satisfy the obligations placed by the Health and Safety at Work Act and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations. The above hazards have been identified as being inherent to this attraction. Merlin Entertainments Group Ltd does not accept liability for any omissions to this list. Control measures indicated are recommendations only and must be adapted / amended by group organisers. Please ensure adequate supervisors are appointed for the number in your group.