

BLACK BARN farm

SCHOOL PROGRAM - INTRODUCTION LETTER 2024

Hello and thank you for considering a Black Barn Farm experience for the future-builders in your class/school.

WHAT STUDENTS GET AT BLACK BARN FARM

- Our programs are based on underlying principles of acceptance, care, respect, and fun, to support the growth and confidence of each of our young visitors.
- To facilitate an understanding of the relationships between land, soil, plants, animals, people, communities, culture and the networks that nourish them.
- To integrate and reflect on ecological principles as they relate to people, plants, animals, and earth.
- Understanding, through practical application.

BESPOKE PROGRAMS

We know that every school is different and has different needs so while we have much on offer, we prefer not to do 'off-the-shelf' and instead we adapt our range to create a program to suit your kids.

THEMES, ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

Once we understand your specific needs we come back to you with a suitable program proposal.

Potential themes:

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| - using what you've got | - community building | - thriving where you live |
| - simplicity over complexity | - adventures in our own backyard | - conventional v biological farming |
| - long and short supply chains | - water management | |
| - less is more | - connecting to the natural world | |

Potential activities:

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| - Planting & harvesting | - Grafting | - Potato harvesting |
| - Preserving & cooking | - Forest walk and talk | - Contour surveying |
| - Seed saving | - Weaving | - Soil structure analysis |
| - Chicken care | - Fencing | |

Combining activities and themes, if required, we can custom make specific programs such as:

- Re-wilding - think campfires, story telling, foraging useful plants/herbs, reading landscape, making balms
- Farmers in Training - think hands-on, animal care, tractors and trailers, dirt, worm farms, experiments
- Food - think celebrating seasons, preserving, planting, harvesting, cook offs, experiments
- Soil and water - think contour surveying, soil analysis, composting, geology, mining history

GROUNDS & FACILITIES

- The Black Barn - Our purpose built timber barn, situated adjacent to the orchard, offers an indoor classroom or an external courtyard classroom with seating for up to 30 students in each. The Barn offers toilets, hand washing facilities, fresh water, a whiteboard and a fully equipped kitchen.
- The Orchard - A living biodiverse food landscape where principals of regeneration and sustainable farming can be viscerally explained, witnessed and understood.
- Vegetable garden - A vibrant and productive domestic food production space
- Tree nursery - Where we graft and grow out young apple trees for sale each year
- Hoop house - A warm and wild food growing and plant propagation space
- Cool climate temperate forest - A forest of towering blue, peppermint and candlebark gums trees borders Black Barn Farm.

COSTS for 2024

Single half day visit (max 3 hours): \$15 per student (incl GST) \$300 minimum charge

Single full day visit (max 5 hours): \$25 per student (incl GST) \$500 minimum charge

Multiple visits: We offer a discounted rate for multiple visits/seasonal sessions by negotiation

The fee covers the farmers time during the visit, access to facilities and the farm, preparation time and materials.

CHILD SAFETY

Charlie and Jade both have current working with children checks.

INSURANCE

Black Barn Farm does not offer any public liability insurance for visiting children and staff. It is conditional on the visiting school to ensure appropriate insurances are in place to protect Black Barn Farm from any liability. We take safety very seriously at Black Barn Farm having our own risk assessment and mitigation policies in place.

PARKING AND COACH/BUS ACCESS

Black Barn Farm offers all weather parking and turning facilities for large coaches through to mini buses.

ALL ABILITIES ACCESS

Black Barn Farm has been specifically designed to be as accessible as possible. Our barn building and toilet has full wheelchair access and many of the orchard and berry rows are on flat ground offering easy access for disabled students.

Letting students get their hands in the dirt, feed chickens and geese, pat horses, run in the orchard rows, plant trees, sow seeds and see the full range of seasonal evolution is powerful. Connecting to the natural world is critical and farming is one of the best natural learning laboratories to engage and inspire students. We are delighted you are considering us to offer your students such an opportunity.

If you are interested in booking your school group please get in touch with us on the below details, providing information on preferred dates, number of students, learning outcomes/preferred programs and whether you are looking at a one off or repeat visits.

We look forward to hearing from you.

You can find more details about Black Barn Farm at www.blackbarnfarm.com.au

Yours in dirty fingernails & farming love

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