



Dear _____

Principal of _____

_____ has enrolled in Nature's Den Forest & Farm School Programme. I am writing to ask your permission for her/him to attend once a week on a **Thursday / Friday** during the term at **Brookby / Churchill Park / Bombay**.

What Is Nature's Den?

We offer 3 different one-day a week forest & farm school programmes for tamariki between 4-12 years old.

We are an independent non-for-profit organisation. We are not required to register through MOE, as we are not a school. However, our programme is run by qualified and New Zealand registered teachers.

The Ministry have advised us that our programme falls under the New Zealand Education and Training Act 2020 section 52A Release from school: *The principal of a State school may, if satisfied that a student will receive outside the school tuition acceptable to the principal, release the student from attendance at the school, for a period or periods agreed with a parent of that student, to receive the tuition.*

Attendance and Reporting: we understand the importance of recording student attendance accurately. Most schools mark our participating students as 'Justified Absence' or 'Learning Offsite'. We are happy to inform the school of any days the student is absent at Nature's Den for your recording purposes.

Health and Safety: ensuring the safety of our students is paramount. We have stringent health and safety policies in place, available for your review upon request. We take full responsibility for the children's health and safety during their time at Nature's Den, including handling any accidents or incidents that may occur.

Curriculum and Partnerships: Our outdoor classroom fosters holistic development, aligning with the key competencies of the Early Childhood Curriculum (Te Whāriki) and the New Zealand School Curriculum. We view our relationship with your school as a partnership, seeking to complement and enhance the child's overall educational experience.

Learning Experiences: At Nature's Den, students engage in enriching experiences that nurture their social, emotional, spiritual, physical, and cognitive development. From building huts and tying ropes to cooking on a campfire and exploring native bush, our programme offers real and authentic learning experiences. The learning experiences are designed to foster their curiosity, confidence, innovation, resilience and imagination. Our tamariki will learn how to problem-solve and take risks in a safe environment, and they will learn how to care for and respect the environment as well as others.

Should you require further information or have any queries, please feel free to contact me at alex@naturesden.co.nz.

Ngā mihi,

Alex Sherie – Director/Lead Educator

I, _____, give permission for _____
to attend Nature's Den Forest & Farm School Programme.

Signature: _____

Date: _____