



I am going on a trip with my class to Government House

This story has been written for students visiting Government House with their class, who might find a social script useful in their trip preparation.



I am going on a trip with my class to Government House.

We will walk to Government House or catch the bus. Some people might go to Government House in a car.

When we get there, we will go through the big gates. We might need to use the intercom to ask them to open the gates for us.



This is the intercom button. You press it then let go of it to talk to the people looking after the gate.

Government House is a special building. The Governor-General lives at Government House. There are people working there who will teach my class and show us things.



Heather and Michael and Kate work at the Visitor Centre at Government House. They will show us lots of things and tell us about Government House and the Governor General.



This is Dame Cindy Kiro. She is the Governor-General. It is her house we will visit. If we meet Dame Cindy, she is really nice. Heather and Richard and Kate will tell us how we call her “Your Excellency” or “Ma’am” or “Dame Cindy”. (The word ‘Ma’am” rhymes with “ham”!)

Dame Cindy is married to Dr Davies. If we meet him, we can call him “Sir” or “Dr Davies”. His name is spelt “Davies” but it is said “Davis”.



Dame Cindy and Dr Davies have 2 dogs that live with them in Government House. The dogs are called Pebbles and Lucy. They are small dogs and they like people, but they sometimes bark. We will be told that if we see the dogs we should stand still and be quiet, so we don't scare Lucy. Sometimes she gets a bit frightened if there are lots of people.



This is Pebbles. She is a pug.



This is Lucy. She is a mix of a pug and a miniature schnauzer. That makes her a 'schnug'!

We will start in the Visitor Centre. We will look at displays. We will be told when we can eat our morning tea or lunch. We will be reminded to use the toilet before we go on our tour.



Before we leave the Visitor Centre, we will be told rules for the visit.

We will be told:

- To look after the house by not touching things.
- To use inside voices.
- Not to sit on the furniture unless we are told we can.
- To stay with our group.

Michael and Kate and Heather will check we know what to do if there is an emergency:

- If there is a fire alarm, they will take us to a safe place.
- If there is an earthquake we need to drop, cover, hold and stay with our group.
- If we feel sick, we can tell them or a teacher or other adult.
- If we need to use the toilet, we need to tell an adult.

We will be asked to leave our bags in the Visitor Centre. The bags will be safe because the doors will be locked. *If there are things that I want to carry with me to help me relax, I can talk to my teacher, or I can ask Michael or Kate or Heather.*

We will walk from the Visitor Centre to Government House. It is a short walk. We will go in the front door (official entrance) or the ballroom door.



We will see different rooms and special things in Government House. Here are some of the things we might see. We might not see them in this order.



If I need a break from the tour, I can talk to my teacher or Michael or Kate or Heather.

After we have looked at the different rooms inside Government House, we will go back to the Visitor Centre. If the weather is nice and we have time, we might have a walk in the gardens.

When we get back to school, we will talk about the things we saw and did.