Dear Parent/Caregiver,

The following information gives details of the excursion your child is participating in on the Daradgee Environmental Education Centre’s boat, the Daraji Sunbird.

**The vessel - Daraji Sunbird:** Surveyed for 23 persons in 1E (smooth water) conditions; Construction is thick aluminium plate, sturdy, stable sides and rails to 1m height; Bus style seating, full length canopy, fully safety equipped including lifejackets.

A qualified commercial coxswain will captain the vessel, with instructional programs conducted by D.E.E.C. teaching staff or alternately negotiated personnel. All crew have appropriate boating experience and current first aid. Risk management for the varied student activities which may be undertaken, is in place.

**Life Jackets**
As per Department of Transport and Education Queensland requirements as well as Daradgee E.E.C. risk management, it is not a requirement for students to wear life jackets continuously on this boat. If you do wish for your child to wear a life jacket it will be provided on your written request. Please see below.

**Please Note:** To ensure correct size lifejackets are carried on the boat for each excursion, we need to know the weight of your child. This must be provided whether your child is to wear a lifejacket or not.

**Program Delivery:** All programs are being conducted on the North Johnstone and Johnstone Rivers in various locations from the Bruce Highway/North Johnstone Bridge to the mouth of the river. Students may board and/or disembark at the Daradgee Wharf, town sites such as the Rowing Club pontoon or river sites such as The Coconuts, Coquette and Flying Fish Point and Alligator Point. These provide functional access and staff ensure groups are well monitored and supervised.

Programmed activities include safety and general boating followed by a range of environmentally linked studies and activities. These may also include a variety of estuarine and marine studies such as visual and written surveys, use of fish traps, nets and recreational fishing techniques.

Some of these activities may take place at local beaches, rock pools or tidal flats and may involve wading, beach combing and investigating mangroves. All activities will be appropriately managed, supervised and conducted according to environmental considerations i.e. tidal/weather conditions. Students wading during identified stinger season will require protective clothing. Students will not swim in the River system.

I understand the activities being undertaken by the D.E.E.C. and do/do not give permission for ______________________________ to participate in this excursion.

(Student Name)

Lifejackets are sized by the weight of the child. My child’s weight is ______ kgs.

If you require your child to wear a Life Jacket, please forward a letter to your school detailing your child’s weight and any other considerations.

Name ______________________ Signed ______________________ Date ______________________

04/02/2013