



## Social Story

Updated July 2024

21 September 2024 11am to 4pm

**Orange Blossom Festival**

Rouse Hill Town Centre

Main Street, Rouse Hill NSW 2155



# Guidelines

Thank you for choosing to use a Social Story written for the Orange Blossom Festival. This Social Story is written by [Access Ability Australia](#) and is suited for a person who may live with autism spectrum disorder, a language disorder, social communication difficulties and/or a cognitive delay/disability.

For your Social Story to be successful, we recommend you follow these guidelines.

- Read Social Story often and preferably 2 weeks in advance of visit.
- Social Story to be read and shared in an environment free of distractions.
- Be calm, comfortable and honest when reading a Social Story.
- Help the participant comprehend key points and consistently monitor for level of understanding.
- Once the visit has taken place, revisit the Social Story to celebrate success.



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I am going to the 2024 Orange Blossom Festival.

It is on Saturday September 21 from 11am to 4pm at Rouse Hill Town Centre.

This event is for people to come together to celebrate the Hills Shire Community.



When I arrive, I might see lots of people.

I will see event staff wearing black t-shirts with the Orange Blossom Festival logo.

Some event staff will be wearing bright vests.

Event staff can answer questions and help me with directions.



The parade starts at 11 am and goes for 20 minutes.

I will need to find a spot behind the barrier to watch the parade.



During the parade, I will see floats coming down Main Street.

A float is a decorated platform, usually on top of a vehicle, like a truck.



Community groups will be marching and performing in the parade, including:

- marching bands
- dance groups
- musical groups
- Bluey and Bingo
- a horse and carriage
- the fire brigade.



I will need to stay behind the barrier.

This is important to keep me safe.

I will stay close to my support person.

This is so I do not lose my support person in the crowd.





The parade will finish in Market Square and there will be

- a planting workshop
- photo booth
- a DJ
- Council Information tent

More fun activities at town square including:

- performances on stage from Bluey and Bingo and local dance groups
- face painting
- roaming performers, including stilt walkers and circus performers



There will be toilets, including an accessible toilet at the Rouse Hill Town Centre.

My support person or the events crew can show me where the toilets are.



It might feel very busy and noisy.

There will be lots of people and lots of different sounds including:

- music and singing
- musical instruments from the marching bands
- announcements on microphones
- the siren from the fire truck
- clapping and cheering.



I can wear my headphones to help with the noise.

I can go to the back of the crowd where it might not feel so busy or so noisy.

For quiet time, I can go to the Secret Garden or to the library at Rouse Hill Town Centre.

The Secret Garden will have sensory sessions:

- face painting
- play doh

My support person or event crew can show me where the Secret Garden and library are.



The 2024 Orange Blossom Festival Parade  
is a fantastic event!





## Contacts

Rouse Hill Town Centre

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[www.orangeblossomfestival.com.au](http://www.orangeblossomfestival.com.au)



**THE HILLS**  
Sydney's Garden Shire