



PARLIAMENT OF NSW VISUAL STORY

Year 5 and 6
school visit

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Acknowledgement of Country

The Parliament of New South Wales stands on the traditional lands of the Gadigal people. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

We proudly acknowledge all the Aboriginal peoples of New South Wales and honour their enduring connection to the lands, waters and sky of the State.

The representatives of the people of New South Wales gather from various Aboriginal lands across the State to meet in this Parliament.

May the decisions made within these walls reflect our commitment to fostering a spirit of reconciliation and respect.



The Parliament's Inclusion Statement

You are welcome to be your authentic self here at the Parliament of NSW without judgement.

Please let us know if there is anything we can do that would make you feel more comfortable – such as show you to a quieter area or answer a question.

You are also welcome to use your own strategies to help you feel engaged and relaxed.

About my visit to the Parliament of NSW

I am going to visit the oldest Parliament in Australia and learn about our democracy.

The Parliament is where laws for New South Wales are made. These laws keep me safe.

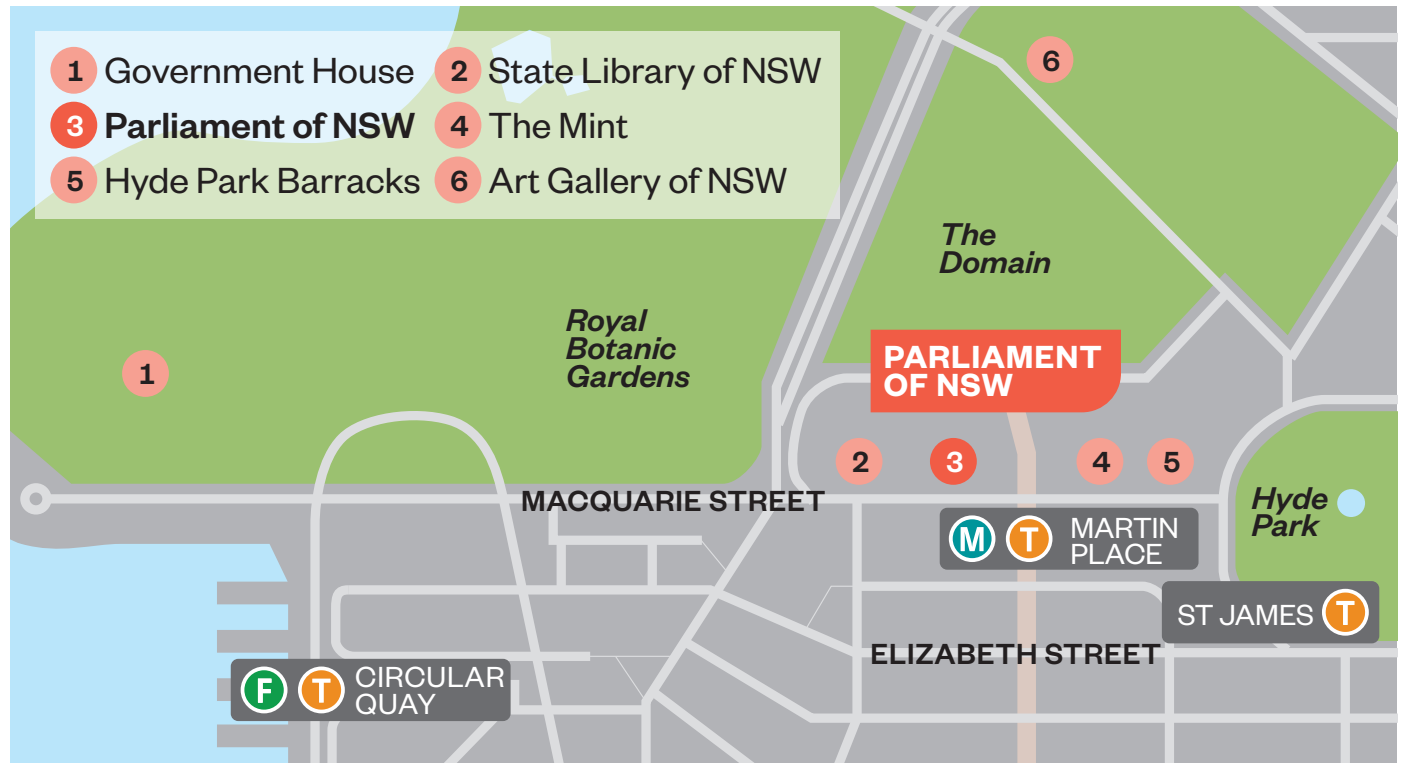
The laws that are made here include laws about schools, trains, roads, public holidays and how the citizens of NSW should behave.

The laws are made by people called members of Parliament and they meet in Parliament House.





The Parliament of NSW is located on Macquarie Street, between Sydney Eye Hospital and the State Library of NSW.



CLICK HERE
TO VIEW ON
GOOGLE
MAPS

Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Lanyard



This is the Information Desk.
This is where I can get a lanyard. It is ok if I do not have a lanyard, I can still get help if I need.



If I already have a Sunflower lanyard, I can bring it with me.
I will see some staff wearing the sunflower lanyard and I know they will help me.

Accessibility feature



- I can take my wheelchair in a special entrance.
- There are accessible toilets and changing rooms.
- Some staff wear the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower lanyard and I can ask them questions.
- There are hearing loops if I wear hearing aids.
- Trained staff are available to help me.
- I can ask for a Sunflower lanyard at the information desk.

Rules / Expected Behaviours



- It is important to not bring sharp things like scissors into the Parliament of NSW.
- I will not take food into the Parliament.
- I will bring my water bottle, but I will not be able to drink in the Chambers or viewing galleries.
- Hats are not worn in the Chambers as a mark of respect. If I need to wear a hat I will ask my teacher.
- There are 400 people working in Parliament every day, so I will try my best to be quiet.
- I won't interrupt people when they are speaking, and I will put my hand up if I want to ask a question.

Sensory information



During my visit to the Parliament of NSW, I might have different sensory experiences.



These could include:



Examples

- Bright lights/glare/flashing lights
- Dark areas
- Moving images



- Crowding
- Unexpected touch
- Sounds like bells ringing. The bells are to let members of Parliament know that they must come to the Chambers.



**If an alarm does sound,
a staff member will tell
me what to do next.**

What to bring/What not to bring



Sometimes it is busy, noisy,
bright and loud at the
Parliament of NSW

I can bring things to help me
enjoy the day.

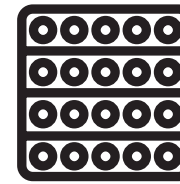
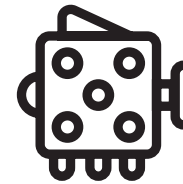
Things I might want to bring
include:



Headphones

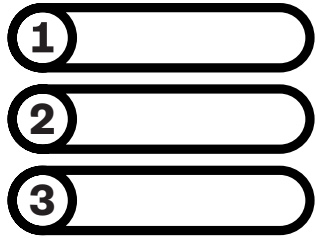


Water bottle



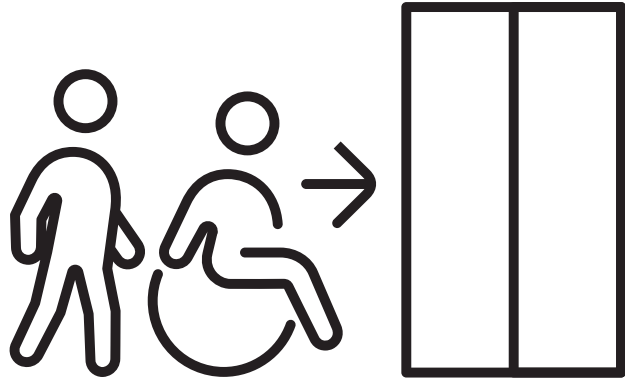
Sensory tools

Sequence of events



1. Enter the Parliament through security
2. Welcome
3. Store bag and go to toilet if needed.
4. Visit the Legislative Assembly and participate in role play (45 minutes)

5. Walk around the Fountain Court
6. Visit the Legislative Council and participate in role play (45 minutes)
7. Collect my bag
8. Leave the Parliament.

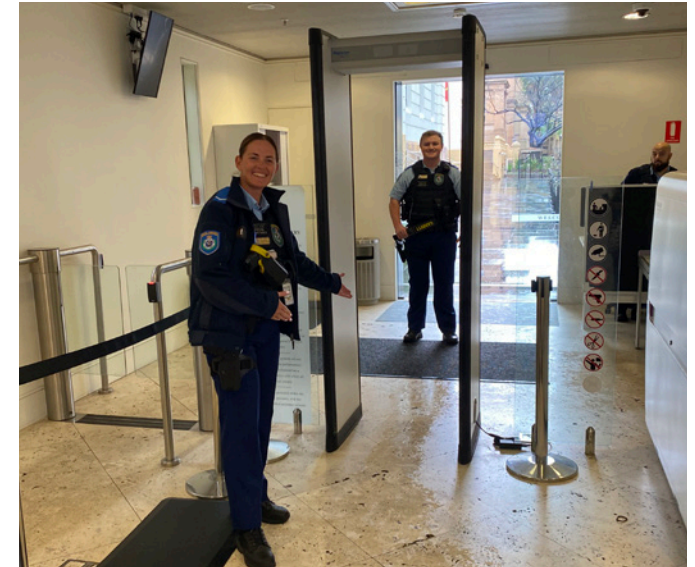
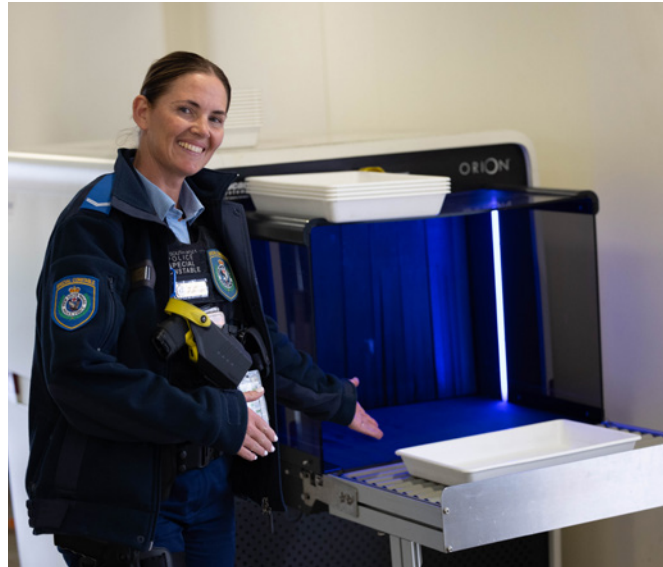


When I arrive at the Parliament of NSW, I will enter a building called the Gatehouse.

This is where the Special Constables are working to help all the people coming into Parliament.



Security at the parliament of NSW



When I arrive at Parliament, I will be met by Special Constables who will help me put my bag through the X-ray.

I will walk through a scanner just like at the airport. If I am worried, I will ask a Special Constable for help.

I will go through the sliding glass doors at security, and I will line up behind my classmates.

A friendly Chamber Support Officer will meet us.

They will lead our group up the stairs and into Parliament.



Accessible entry

If I need help to go into Parliament through the accessible entry, I will ask the Special Constable to get someone to help me.



Accessible entry



I will wait for the glass door to open and then walk through.



Down a corridor



And then I can catch a lift to the place where my tour will start

Main entry



If I don't need to use the accessible entry, I will walk up some stone stairs.



I might see Special Constables at the front door of parliament.

Legislative Assembly Foyer

When I walk in the doors, I will see the entry to the Legislative Assembly and the Reception Desk.



Storing my bag



I will walk down these marble stairs to where my bag will be stored.



I will put my bag in a bag trolley.
It will be safe in here.

I will collect my bag before I
leave the Parliament today.

Moving to the Legislative Assembly with my group

When I have stored my bag, I
will go up the stairs to the
Legislative Assembly foyer



I will be asked if I need to use the toilet before we start our tour.

I will then line up with everyone outside the Legislative Assembly Chamber.



Speakers Square

This is the entry into Speakers Square in the Legislative Assembly. I will wait here to be led into the Legislative Assembly Chamber with my group.



My Chamber Support Officer will lead my class and I into the Legislative Assembly through two sets of doors that open and close automatically.



Legislative Assembly – Green Room

This room is very large with lots of closed doors.

It has a very high ceiling and is very bright.

Lots of people can fit in this room.

There is a big table in the middle of the room.

Behind the table is a HUGE chair that a very important person sits in.

My class and I will sit on the green benches.



I will sit on the green benches.
The benches are very
comfortable.

I will be in this room for about
45 minutes.



I might be asked if I would like to be in a play with some of my classmates.

If I have a part in the play, I will be asked to read aloud from a card and pretend that I am one of the people in the play.

I might be asked to be:

The Speaker

The Clerk

The Sergeant at Arms

The Leaders of the Opposition

The Premier

A Minister

A Shadow Minister

or a Member of Parliament

or I might watch the play.



When we do the role play, other students may be calling out “Speaker!” as part of the role play.

There might be loud voices when the Chamber Support Officer yells out ORDER, or they may ring the bells which might sound loud to me.

This might be noisy, but I know it is a play and I am safe.



The role play is about how a bill is passed in the Legislative Assembly.

When the role play starts a bell will ring.

The Serjeant at Arms carrying the Mace, leads the Speaker into the Chamber. We all stand up until the Speaker takes their seat and the Mace is resting on the table.

The Speaker calls on the Minister to speak.

The Minister proposes a bill.

The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly reads the name of the bill to the House.

The Speaker asks the Minister to speak in favour of the bill.

The Minister will say what the bill is about and why the government wants to bring it in.

The Speaker asks the Shadow Minister to comment on the bill.

The Shadow Minister will explain why the Opposition is against the bill.

The Speaker will ask the Premier to speak about the bill.

The Premier will speak in favour of the bill.

The Speaker will ask the Leader of the Opposition to speak about the bill.

The Leader of the Opposition comment on the bill.

The Speaker will ask if anyone else would like to speak for or against the bill.

If I want to speak about the bill I will stand and call 'SPEAKER'.

If the Speaker chooses me, I will go to the table and speak about the bill, then I will sit down.

When the debate finishes the Speaker will call the Minister to speak in reply.

The Minister will speak in reply.

The Speaker will put the bill to the House, which means they will ask those who agree to the bill to say "Aye" (which means yes).

Those who agree will say "Aye"

The Speaker will ask those against the bill to say NO.

Those against the bill will say NO.

The Speaker will say the "Ayes" have it and declare the bill passed.

Quiet space

If I don't like the noise, I can ask my teacher to take me out to the green lounge outside this Chamber. I can rest here.



When we have finished in the
Legislative Assembly, my group
and I will walk together across
to the Legislative Council.

I will see a lovely water
sculpture.

I might see some artwork on
the walls.



Legislative Council Foyer

This is the entry to the
Legislative Council foyer. I will
wait here for my Chamber
Support Officer



I will see the reception desk in
the Legislative Council foyer.



I will meet another Chamber
Support Officer who will lead
me into the Legislative Council.



Legislative Council – Red Room

I will see white sculptures of ex-Presidents and past notable members of the Legislative Council

I will sit on the red benches with my group. They are comfortable.

We will do a play in this room. If I am chosen, I will stand up in front of the class and read from a piece of paper.

I might be asked to be:

The President

The Leader of the Government

The Leader of the Opposition

The Usher of the Black Rod



The role play is about how a bill is amended and passed in the Legislative Council.

The President enters the Chamber led by the Usher of the Black Rod.

The President reads out a message from the Legislative Assembly regarding a Bill.

The Leader of the Government introduces the Bill.

The Leader of the Opposition replies to the Bill and foreshadows the opposition moving an amendment.

The Leader of the Opposition speaks about the amendment.

The Crossbench is asked to respond to the amendment - for or against.

The Question is put by the President.

The President calls for a Division and a Division takes place (A Division is when members divide into two groups to vote for or against a proposal.)

The President reads out the result.

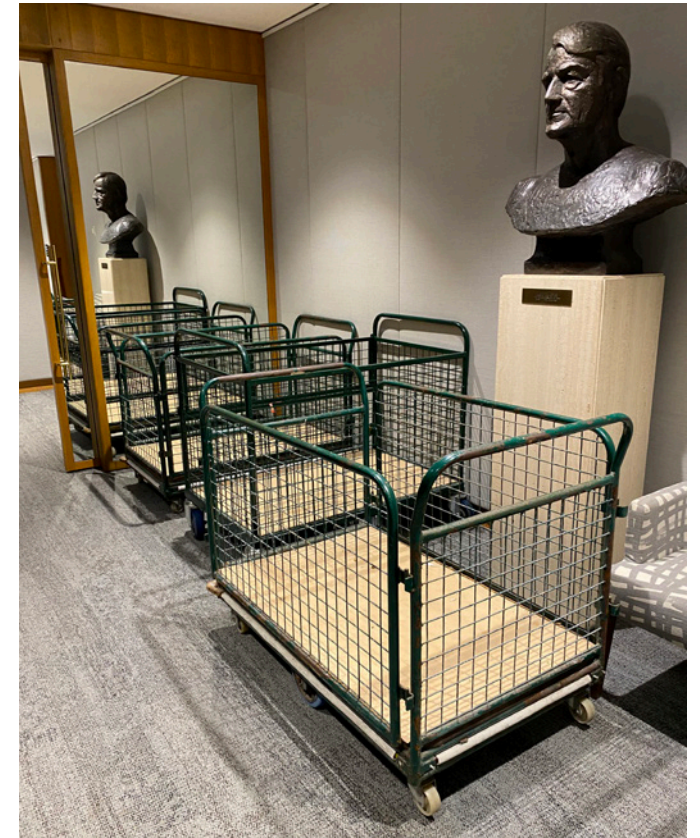
Quiet space

If I don't like the noise in the Chamber, I will ask my teacher to take me to the red lounge outside where I can rest and wait for my class.



Collecting my bag

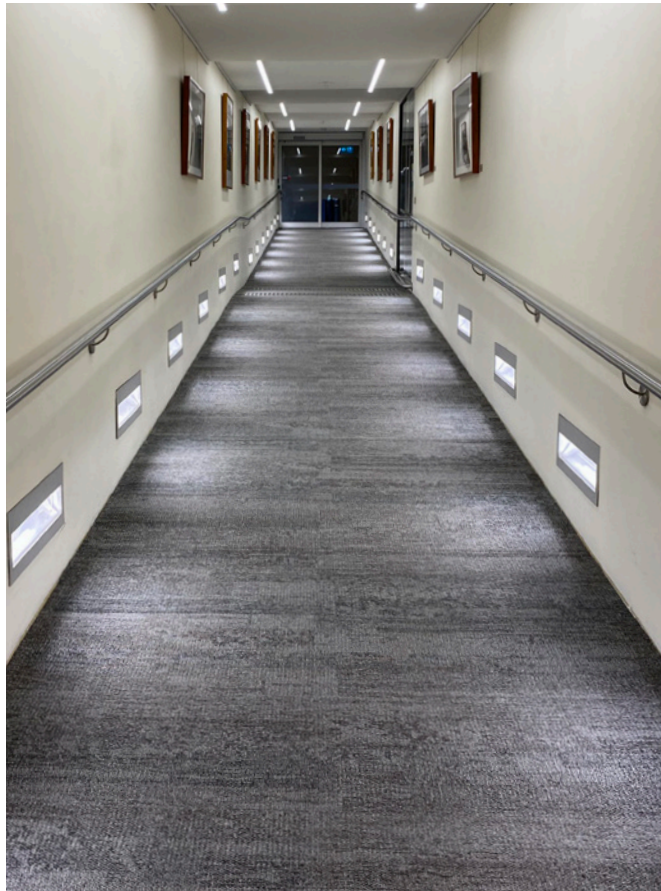
At the end of our program, I will walk down the stairs to collect my bag with my group.



Leaving the Parliament building



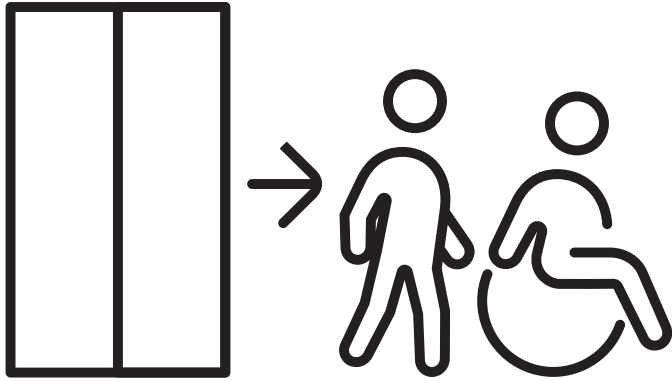
After I collect my bag, I will walk along a corridor towards the exit.



I will turn the corner and go up a ramp



At the end of the corridor is a glass door which takes me outside.



When I leave the Parliament of NSW, I will go through a metal turnstile.

My teacher can ask the Special Constable to open the gate and let me out if I do not want to go through the turnstile.



Thank you and we hope you
visit again.

Contact

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<https://education.parliament.nsw.gov.au>

