



Queensland Parliament
Education and Liaison

Junior Indigenous Youth Parliament

Teacher Briefing



About the event



Junior Indigenous Youth Parliament, 2024.

Our Youth Parliament program gives your students the opportunity to experience some of the functions of Queensland Parliament **first-hand**.

Students who are given a speaking role as a Youth Member will either:

- debate **for or against a motion**, or
- provide a **Private Members' Statement**, or
- speak in an **Adjournment Debate**.

Some students will have a **non-speaking** or **scripted role** (no prior preparation required).

Key details

Junior Indigenous Youth Parliament

Thursday 21st August 2025

AFL Cape York House, Cairns

65 Buchan Street, Portsmith QLD 4870

- 9.00am to 9.30am—Registration
- 9.30am to 9.50am—Student briefing
- 10.00am to 1.00pm—Youth Parliament
(including Morning Tea)
- 1.00pm to 1.30pm—Official
photographs



Roles and responsibilities (after allocations are sent)

	You	Your student(s)
Prior to Youth Parliament	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Select student(s) to participate.• Assign each student a role.• Hand out, collect and return all forms to us.• Assist with speech writing and editing (if required).• Print out a copy of the speech (if required).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complete and return the Photo Consent Form.• Research, write and practice speech.• Print out a copy of the speech.
Youth Parliament	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supervise student(s).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deliver speech and/or fulfil requirements of role.

Due dates

What?	Due date
Return Participant Detail Form to the Parliamentary Education team. (1 per school)	COB Thursday 24 July 2025
Return Photo Consent Form to the Parliamentary Education team. (1 per student)	COB Thursday 24 July 2025
Share the link to purchase a free ticket to attend the Youth Parliament. (1 per parent, caregiver or guest)	COB Thursday 31 July 2025

Government

The Government is made up of party who has the support of the majority of members elected to the Legislative Assembly.

- St Therese's School Bentley Park
- Balaclava State School
- Woree State School
- Yorkeys Knob State School
- Isabella State School
- Yarrabah State School
- Mareeba State School
- Trinity Beach State School
- Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School
- Djarragun College

Key roles

- Youth Premier
- Youth Minister for Sport—in addition to their speech, the Minister will read the motion to be debated.
- Youth Leader of the House—in addition to their speech they will provide a vote of thanks (this is scripted, no prior preparation needed).
- Youth Government Whip—in addition to their speech, the Whip reads two scripted lines (no practice or prior preparation needed).

Opposition

The Opposition is the next largest party that does not form the government.

- St Thomas of Villanova
- MacKillop Catholic College
- Whitfield State School
- Mossman State School
- Hambledon State School
- Parramatta State School

Key Roles

- Youth Leader of the Opposition
- Youth Shadow Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships—in addition to their speech, the Minister will read the motion to be debated.
- Youth Shadow Minister for Sport—in addition to their speech, they will yell ‘Divide’ prior to the division.
- Youth Opposition Whip—in addition to their speech, the Whip reads one scripted lines (no practice or prior preparation needed)

Other Key Roles

These roles are either scripted or require no speaking at all —no prior preparation required.

- Youth Sergeant-at-Arms
- Youth Clerk
- Youth Parliamentary Attendants

Youth Parliament

Students will
be allocated
1 of the
following



A Vision for Queensland

Opposition Motion

Private Members' Statement

Government Motion

Adjournment Debate

Vision for Queensland

This speech is only given by the Youth Premier and Youth Leader of the Opposition.

It asks the student to explore the question—*What Queensland will you create as a leader?*



2 minutes maximum



Persuasive

Opposition Motion

Introduced by the **Youth Shadow Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships**, this motion will ask the House to support the following:

Speaker, I move that this Parliament place on record its appreciation of the contribution made to our State and nation by various celebrated Indigenous Australians.

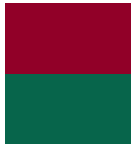
The celebrated Indigenous Australian the students will speak on comes from the name of their seat. For example, the Youth Member for Yagmoor will speak on Peter Yagmoor, celebrated AFL player.



1 minute maximum



Persuasive



Opposition Youth Members argue **for**.

Government Youth Member argue **for**.

Government Motion

Introduced by the **Youth Minister for Sport**, this motion will ask the House to support the items below.

Speaker, I move that this Youth Parliament supports the following provisions to promote equality in sport:

1. All Year 6 students from South East Queensland will attend a school sports carnival, competing against Far North Queensland Schools, to be held each year in Townsville or Cairns;
2. At least one State of Origin game will be played in Far North Queensland each year;
3. From 2025, all players in the NRLW competition will be paid at the same rate as the NRL players.
4. Cairns to have a professional AFL team to compete in the AFL & AFLW competitions.



1 minute maximum



Persuasive



Government Youth Members argue **for**.

Opposition Youth Members argue **against**.

Just select
one point
to speak
on.

“Cairns to have a professional AFL team to compete in the AFL & AFLW competitions.”



A Government Youth Member may say: *Having a professional AFL team based in Cairns will improve pathways for regional junior participants and allow players to stay close to home.*



A Opposition Youth Member may say: *Cairns lacks the infrastructure and population to ensure a professional AFL team will be successful long term.*

Private Members' Statement Adjournment Debate

Think of
this as a
free choice
topic!

Students speak on any topic or issue that falls within either the:

- Queensland jurisdiction *i.e. School, Environment, Health, Roads, Law and Order etc.*
- Local jurisdiction *i.e. Street, Suburb, Playground, Park, Library etc.*

In the past students have spoken about the high cost of fresh fruit and vegetables, youth crime, speed limits on roads, lack of school resources or facilities, scooters and e-bikes, an endangered animal, homelessness, the Brisbane Olympics, natural disaster assistance, bullying, public transport etc.



1 minute maximum



Persuasive or informative

Speech preparation tips

- Do not use palm cards.
- Print the speech on A4 paper—use large, easy-to-read font.
- Write the seat name at the top (i.e. Youth Member for Yagmoor).
- Focus on 1 key point.
- Start with:
 - *Speaker, I rise to speak on...*
 - *Speaker, I rise to inform the House...*
 - *Speaker, I draw the attention of the House...*
- Conclude with *Thank-you, Speaker.*