



QUEENSLAND PARLIAMENT

VIRTUAL

TOUR PROGRAM



ACTIVITY 1

Write the missing words into the text below:

Queensland Parliament only has one Chamber (or house). This means we are a **U**_____ parliament.

This Chamber is called the **L**_____
A_____.

Our parliament is based on the **W**_____ system which comes from the United Kingdom. This system has many features. **When you hear about or notice one of these features, colour the circle.**

- A head of state—a King or Queen (and/or their representative).
- An elected Parliament.
- A government that has the support of the majority of members in the lower house of Parliament.
- A head of the government—the Premier.
- An opposition.

Did you know? Our *Constitution* (a set of rules by which a state or country is run) also says the Queen or King (represented by the Governor) is part of our Parliament. The current Governor is Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM (pictured here).



YOU WILL NEED

- A pen or pencil.
- 3 coloured pencils or crayons.

INQUIRY QUESTION

How does Queensland Parliament work to represent the people and make laws, and why are these functions important in our system of government?

SUCCESS CRITERIA

By the end of my virtual visit I will be able to:

- Describe where Queensland's government came from and how it was influenced by British traditions.
- Name at least two jobs the Parliament does.
- Identify a Member of Parliament, their political party, and explain their role.
- Explain what a majority government is and how it is created after an election.

Can you spot any other places or cultures being represented in the Chamber?



ACTIVITY 2

Our Chamber has a horseshoe or U shape. You'll see this layout in other parliaments too!

Mark and label the diagram of the Legislative Assembly Chamber on the next page.

A. Select 3 colours and use them to show where these groups sit:

GOVERNMENT—The party who has the support of the majority of elected MPs.
What political party formed government after the last election? _____

OPPOSITION—The party with the second greatest number of MPs elected.

CROSSBENCH—MPs who belong to a minor party or sit as an Independent. **How many crossbench MPs do we have?** _____

B. Now, mark where each person sits in the Chamber. Then, match each role to the correct definition.

Minister

Provides advice to the Speaker.

Clerk

The Presiding Officer of the Legislative Assembly. He or she enforces the rules of parliament.

Speaker

The leader of the political party with the majority of seats in the Legislative Assembly.

Premier

An MP who is not a Minister or Shadow Minister.

Leader of the Opposition

The leader of the largest non-government political party.

Backbencher

An MP who looks after a particular area (called a portfolio), such as health or education.

C. Place an X where your MP sits. One of the most important functions (or jobs) of our Parliament is that you and your community has a MP to represent them.

D. Draw a line or mark where you would find the Mace.

Legislative Assembly Chamber

