



Speech By  
**Hon. Leeanne Enoch**


**MEMBER FOR ALGESTER**

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Record of Proceedings, 24 August 2017

## **ADJOURNMENT**

### **Algester Electorate**

 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algester—ALP) (Minister for Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy and Minister for Small Business) (11.14 pm): I have the great privilege of representing the people of Algester in this place and I have enjoyed working with many individuals and community groups over the past 2½ years. I have particularly enjoyed representing and working with the fantastic schools across the Algester electorate, their teachers, support staff, parents and students.

During this month I have had the honour of hosting four of my schools in Parliament House. I would like to acknowledge the teachers and students who took the time to visit. Deputy Principal Robern Hinchliffe from St John's Anglican College in Forest Lake, which is a school with an incredibly strong commitment to STEM, accompanied students Kelsey Matuschka, Shihaab Azam, Olivia Hutley and Hamza Khan. Principal Tony Maksoud, a passionate and future oriented school leader from Grand Avenue State School, also in Forest Lake, accompanied students Ella Bradshaw, Pietro Marin, Maeve Fray and Rahil Mehta. Principal Phil Manitta, from St Stephen's Catholic School in Algester, who is an incredibly energetic and driven leader, accompanied students Rocco Manitta and Zoe Stephens. Deputy Principal Christine Roseneder, from Algester State School, where coding and robotics is really growing, accompanied students Charlotte White, Jackson Rose, Eva Wilde and Orihah Jessop.

I have a fundamental belief in the power of a sound education. As a former teacher I know firsthand how important our education system, our schools and our teachers are for the future of our children and, more broadly, our society. As the mother of two wonderful sons, like parents across the Algester electorate and all parents for that matter, I want my children to inherit a world that will allow them to prosper and grow no matter their religion, their race or whom they love. Of course, a sound education supports the development of key skills and knowledge to help prepare our young people for the jobs of their future. It also lays a foundation for the continued progression of our society.

In recent weeks we have witnessed some incredibly disturbing scenes across the globe and, disgracefully, in our own country's federal parliament. When division, hatred and fearmongering go unchecked, we are all affected. When flat-out bigotry is minimised as humorous or held up as some kind of right, we are all affected. When culture, religion, who you love or the colour of your skin is mocked, demonised or used to create an argument of superiority, we are all affected. When I spend time with students from my electorate of Algester, students from varying cultures and backgrounds, with dreams and hopes that are still to be realised, I feel even more driven to strive for a state and a country that values difference and believes in equality.