

Plan your school tour of Parliament



Booking your school tour

If you haven't booked your tour, our friendly team are ready to assist you.

Our free tours provide first-hand knowledge of the legislative process for students in stages 3, 5 and 6.

You can:

- gain insight into democracy: explore the democratic process, understand the role of parliamentarians, and learn about law making and the role of debates in the chambers.
- experience Australia's oldest parliament: discover the rich history and architecture of NSW Parliament House
- engage in interactive learning: guided tours, and role play activities ensure active participation and understanding of parliamentary procedures.

Contact details

Opening hours:

Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm

Public and school tours team:

(02) 9230 3444

Email: tours@parliament.nsw.gov.au

BOOK HERE

Primary school students

We welcome primary students in years five and six into the oldest parliamentary chambers in Australia, where they can sit where state laws are made and dive into democracy with a role play.

These tours can accommodate up to 60 primary school students.

To add to your experience, you may be able to meet your local member. Once you book your tour we will contact your local member to see if they can attend.

Secondary school students

In-person tours are available for up to 50 secondary students in years 10 and 11, with particular value for commerce and legal studies classes. Explore the historic chambers and gain a deeper understanding of law making and civic responsibility.



Curriculum Outcomes

Stage 3 History (Years 5 and 6)

Students engage with local, state and federal government structures and responsibilities.

Stage 5 Commerce (Years 9 and 10)

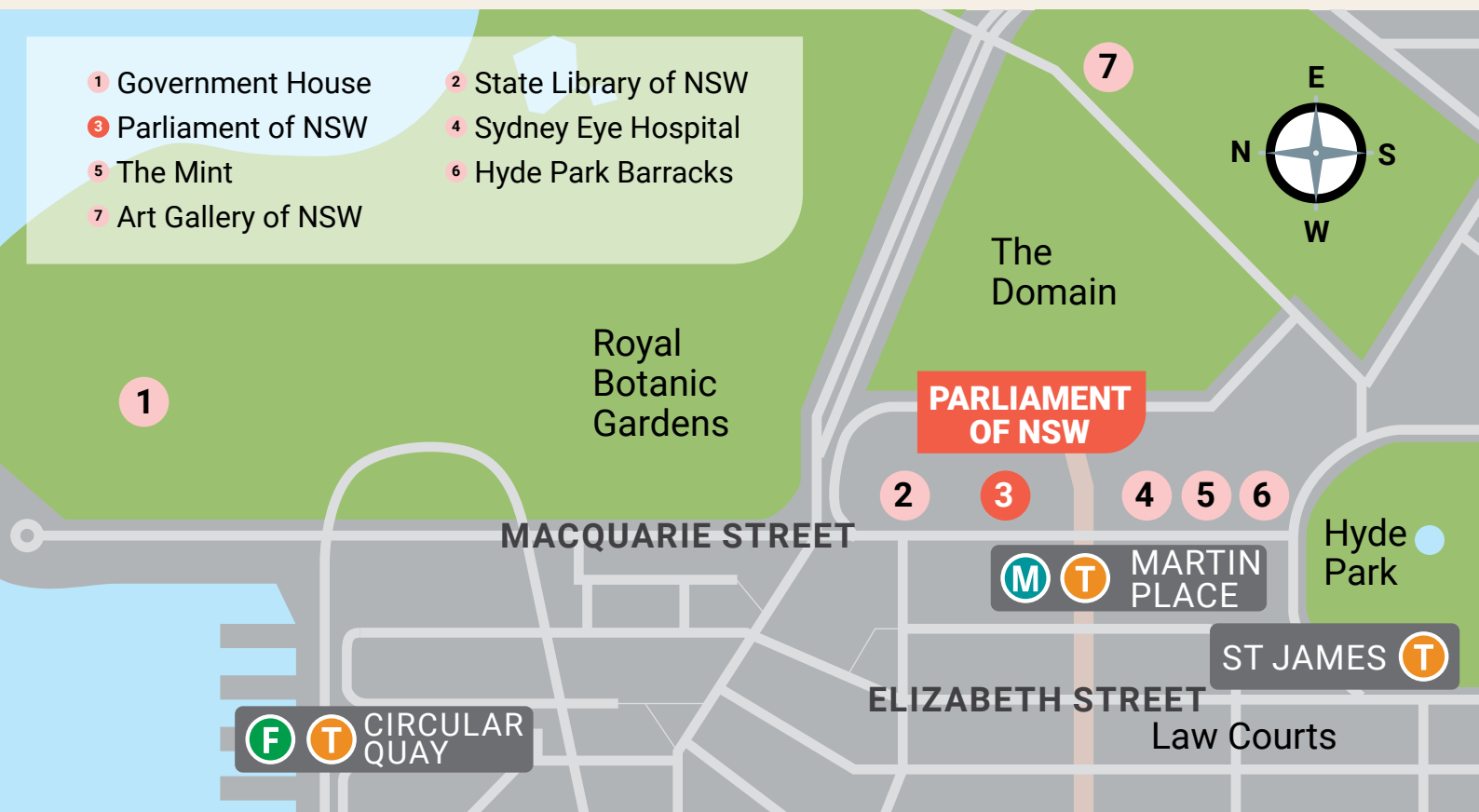
Students develop an understanding of political and legal processes in order to become informed, responsible and active citizens. Commerce provides opportunities for students to develop the skills required to become responsible and independent individuals who can contribute to society.

Stage 6 Legal Studies (Year 11)

Part 1: The legal system – The nature and functions of law through the examination of the law-making processes and institutions including electing the parliament, statute law, development of the Australian constitution. Students explore the division and separation of powers concepts, learn about the role of parliamentary committees and hear how Members of Parliament resolve disputes with the state.

Getting here

New South Wales Parliament House is located on Macquarie Street, between Sydney Eye Hospital and the State Library of NSW. When you arrive, entry is via the security gatehouse. Please then head up the front steps or use the ramp and lift to our reception area, where the tour begins.



[CLICK HERE TO VIEW ON GOOGLE MAPS](#)

Street address

6 Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

Public transport

The nearest train stations are Martin Place and St James.

Buses run from Macquarie, Elizabeth and Castlereagh streets.

Route numbers: 200, 309, 324, 325, 326, 327, 333, 339, 343, 373, 374, 376, 377, 380, 389, 391, 392, 394, 396, 397 and 399 service the area.

Plan your trip with [Trip Planner](#).

Parking

Car parking is not generally available at Parliament House. Nearby public car parks are located at:

- Cook and Phillip Park (access via Cathedral Street)
- The Domain (access via St Marys Road)
- Sydney Hospital next door to Parliament House (access via Hospital Road).

Entry point and coach access

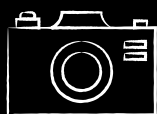
Buses transporting students may stop briefly to set them down at the footpath on Macquarie Street adjacent to Parliament House. School staff must supervise the safe movement of the group from the bus to the security entrance doors of Parliament House.



Food and drink

Food and drink cannot be consumed in the chambers.

Please note, any bags will be passed through the metal detector upon entry. We recommend students only bring a small backpack or bag to Parliament as large backpacks are not permitted into the chambers. Storage is available for school bags if required. Please do not bring any sharp items, including scissors.



You are welcome to take photos and notes on the tour.

How to prepare for your tour

Once your tour is booked in, you should choose students for the role play. These will be conducted in the chambers.

The selected students will be given scripts to read. Some suggestions could include choosing students:

- who are fluent readers
- who are happy to speak in front of their peers
- from all classes if your excursion group combines multiple classes.

Primary school

In one **primary school** group you will need 11 students to play the following roles:

Legislative Assembly

- Speaker
- Minister for Education
- Shadow Minister for Education
- Premier
- Leader of the Opposition
- Clerk
- Serjeant-at-Arms

Legislative Council

- President
- Leader of the Government
- Leader of the Opposition
- Usher of the Black Rod

Secondary school

In one **secondary school** group you will need 13 students to play the following roles. The remaining students will be audience members.

Legislative Assembly

- Speaker
- Attorney General
- Shadow Attorney General
- Premier
- Leader of the Opposition
- Government backbencher
- Opposition backbencher
- Clerk

Legislative Council

- President
- Leader of the Government
- Leader of the Opposition
- Crossbench member
- Chair of Committees

Nearby attractions

We are one of many attractions on Macquarie Street your students might enjoy. Primary school students often enjoy combining their visit with the [Justice and Police Museum](#) to round out a day of civics education. High school commerce students may like to combine their visit with a trip to the [Reserve Bank of Australia](#) and, Legal Studies classes may consider visiting the [Downing Centre](#), in addition to touring Parliament.

Accessibility

All visitors enter Parliament from Macquarie Street via a security screening station, similar to what you might experience at an airport. If you have accessibility requirements that affect how you undergo security screening, please advise the security officers when you arrive.

Wheelchair and mobility disability

There is ramp and lift access from the Macquarie Street entrance to reception located on level seven.

Once inside, Parliament House has flat access to both the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly chambers, the Macquarie, Jubilee, McKell and Preston Stanley rooms, the Public Café and Strangers' Restaurant.

There are accessible lifts from reception on level seven, and the Theatre on level six. The carpets in Parliament House are short, with dense pile.

Blind/visually impaired

There is signage with raised lettering in some areas of the

publicly accessible areas of Parliament House.

Hearing-impaired, deaf, deaf-blind

Parliament House has fitted induction loops in the Visitors' Galleries of the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council Chambers, Macquarie Room, Jubilee Room, McKell Room, Preston Stanley Room, Education Centre and Parliamentary Theatre.

An AUSLAN interpreter can be booked at the same time the tour is booked.

Accessible toilets

There are accessible public toilets located on levels six and seven at Parliament House.

A Changing Places facility is also available on level six. This is designed to be completely

accessible and provides sufficient space and equipment for people who are not able to use the toilet independently.

Guide dogs and assistance animals

We welcome guide dogs and other assistance animals at Parliament House. Please have your animal's accreditation pass available to present to staff on entry.

Facilities for parents

There is a baby change room on level seven with comfortable chairs, a change table, a sink and a microwave.

Parking for people with disabilities

Please be aware there is no disability parking available for the general public attending tours at NSW Parliament House.





Venue and safety information

Parliament House has public liability cover, emergency procedures, emergency trained staff, a first aid room and trained first aid officers.

Parliament House staff delivering tours have their *Working with Children Check*.

Teachers are responsible for the full supervision of their students at all times while on excursion at Parliament House.

View the

[RISK ASSESSMENT](#)

Gift shop

Located within the Public Café behind the central fountain.

Open Monday to Friday from 9:30am to 4pm.

The gift shop stocks an incredible range of items sourced from local farmers, designers and artists.

Items include a selection of:

- soy candles
- raw honey
- artisan chocolates
- organic skincare products
- handcrafted ceramics
- stationery items
- rural postcards
- parliamentary books, and
- locally designed indigenous products.

[VISIT THE
ONLINE
GIFT SHOP](#)

What's on at Parliament

[View the Fountain Court exhibition schedule](#)

[Find out more about our events](#)

[Visit the Reconciliation Wall](#)