My Visit to Parliament House.



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What is Parliament House?

Parliament House is where elected Members of Parliament make the laws that govern our State.

Our Parliamentary system is based on the British Westminster system, which divides the Parliament into two Houses: The House of Assembly (green chamber) and the Legislative Council (red chamber).

The House of Assembly has 47 Members



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Waiting outside Parliament House

I will walk with my class up some marble steps to get to the door into Parliament House My teacher will go inside and let security know that we have arrived.

The class may have to wait outside before we go in. That's okay because I can talk to my friends or look at the buildings or people around me.

I will stand in line before we enter Parliament House so the teacher can make sure we are safe.





Going inside Parliament House

I will go through wooden and glass doors, then through to a small, glassed security section. I will wait in a single file line with my class to go through the security section. It may be a bit tight with lots of people, but that's okay.

We can get started on our tour quickly if we all listen to the security guards, put our bags on the security x-ray machine and walk through the body scanner.





Inside Centre Hall

The next room is a big space with a very high ceiling. There is carpet on the floor and there are two levels above us. It can get quite loud in here at times due to the echo, especially when there are lots of people in there.

If it gets too loud, I can always speak to my teacher or an adult with me and move to a quiet room.

My teacher will speak to the person at the front desk, and they will call our tour guide.





The lockers and toilets

I will take my bag downstairs to the lockers so that I don't have to carry it all day. It will be locked in the locker to be kept safe, and I will get my bag back later. There are toilets near the lockers too.

I will tell my teacher if I need to go to the toilet and they will take me to a bathroom. There might be other people in the bathroom too. When I am finished using the toilet, I will wash my hands.





People at Parliament House

Many people visit Parliament House and many people work there too.

If I get lost, a staff member will be able to help me find my class. Staff members work in the building, and they wear a special pass with their photo on it.





Our tour at Parliament House

My teacher knows what we are going to do and when.

My teacher will tell the class where we will be going and we will be moving around Parliament House as a group. I might visit many areas of Parliament House or just a few. will follow my teacher and I will stay with the group.

My teacher will tell me when I can eat and when I can get my food from my bag.

After we have done all the things that our teacher has planned, we will go to collect our bags.







Debating at Parliament House

My class might go into the House of Assembly chamber (the green one) to have a debate. We will be allowed to sit on the green seats. Sometimes this can get a little bit loud if the class is excited. If I feel like I need a quiet space, I will tell my tour guide or my teacher, and we can move.

I will sit as still as I can, listen to the person talking and put my hand up if I have an answer to a question. I will not talk unless I am asked to give an answer. I will not interrupt the person speaking.





Politicians at Parliament House

When the politicians are working, we might sit in the seats upstairs and watch. I will need to stay sitting in the gallery, and be as quiet as possible. There are a few things that might be loud when the politicians are working.

There are bells that tell the politicians to go to the right place in the building, and they can talk loudly. If I feel it is too loud I can tell my teacher or another adult and we can find a quiet place.





Politicians at Parliament House

Sometimes there are lights that flash in parts of the building, one red and one green. These lights tell the politicians that they are being called to go to a room.

If the lights make me uncomfortable, I can tell my teacher or another adult and we can move to a room where there are no lights.





Eating at Parliament House

When it is time to eat, I will go with my class to eat outside or we might have a snack in Parliament House if my teacher has arranged it with our guide. I will not eat inside Parliament House unless my teacher tells me I can.





Touching things at Parliament House

At Parliament House there will be lots of interesting things. I can touch some of these things. There are other things that I cannot touch. I will just look at these things.

I will be told which ones I can touch and which ones to just look at. If I am not sure whether I can touch something I will ask an adult.





Big spaces at Parliament House

Parliament House is a special building and inside it looks and feels different to home or school. Some rooms in Parliament House are big. Some rooms in Parliament House are small. Some rooms in Parliament House might be dark or bright. If I don't like being in a room and feel uncomfortable, I will tell an adult.





Things to remember:

- Follow the adult who is leading my group
- Stay close to my group
- Walk and not run
- Speak with my quiet voice, even though it may be noisy
- Take turns with other children
- Wait patiently when I have to line up
- Only touch things I am told that I am allowed to touch





A note for teachers, carers and parents

Please contact the Community Education Office on **8237 9443** if you require more photos or further supports to prepare your visitors for a trip to Parliament House.

Don't forget to ask the person taking your booking about a regulation space if your visitors need one.









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