

MEDIA RELEASE DATE: 9 APRIL 2025 | [DOWNLOAD THE HIGH-DEF IMAGE PACK](#)

# NEW TRAVEL SUBSIDY SEES MID-COAST STUDENTS TRAVEL TO NSW PARLIAMENT

**Students from Harrington and Tinonee Public Schools in the electorates of Port Macquarie and Myall Lakes have benefited from the Parliament of NSW regional travel subsidy.**

Year 5/6 students, as part of their Stage 3 *Australia as a Nation* syllabus focus, explored Australia's oldest parliament, further deepening their understanding of the development of democracy.

A new NSW School Tour [travel subsidy](#) has made the educational experience more accessible, giving every child in NSW the opportunity to take part in hands-on civics learning beyond the classroom.

"The travel subsidy has made this visit for our students possible. Last year at Harrington we were planning to go to Canberra, unfortunately it was too expensive for families," Relieving Principal of Harrington Public School, Ms Julie Gray said.

"It took us five hours but the experience at the Parliament of NSW was worth it," she said.

"The education program which included chamber tours, allowed us to sit where parliament's important business is conducted, we had insightful discussions, carried out role plays and even had a surprise visit from the Speaker."

The Hon. Greg Piper, Speaker of the NSW Legislative Assembly, welcomed the students in the Legislative Assembly chamber and spoke about the significance of their visit.

"It was wonderful to have students from the Port Macquarie and Myall lakes electorates make the 300km journey to visit us at NSW Parliament House. Their enthusiasm, curiosity and questions show the future of our state is in great hands," Mr Piper said.

The Hon. Ben Franklin, President of the NSW Legislative Council, emphasised the parliament's commitment to ensuring that students from all regions have access to this rich learning experience, especially those in rural and remote areas.

"Immersive, engaging and relevant experiences provide meaningful civics education; you see it on the faces of the children when they visit, as educators bring to life history through role-plays and participatory storytelling," Mr Franklin said.



To find out more about the NSW Parliament School Tour Travel Subsidy and how your school can apply, visit the [Parliament of NSW Education website](#).

Interactive programs and learning resources are also available online for students in regional areas across NSW in addition to the many programs and events at NSW Parliament House in Sydney.

The unique programs available to schools include:

- [Guided tours](#)
- [Legal studies workshops](#)
- [Interactive online programs](#)
- [A short film competition](#)
- Leadership events including the [Secondary Student Leadership Program](#) and [Young Aboriginal Leaders Program](#).

Visit the [Parliament of NSW Education website](#) to find out more.