

School Parliament

School Parliament is designed to encourage students to:

- Develop self confidence through active participation in school parliament
- Become actively involved in issues which they feel are important in their own lives and the lives of others
- Exchange viewpoints and respect the opinions of others
- Accept the decision of the majority
- Address the concerns of the wider community
- Develop essential learning and life skills including the ability to:
 - Argue sensibly
 - Respect the views of others
 - Work together in groups
 - Present group or individual work in a variety of ways
 - Work with evidence, detect bias and do research
 - Make conclusions on the basis of evidence
 - Understand how Federal Parliament works

At Mary Help of Christians School all students in Year 6 will form the School Parliament.

- Students will nominate for positions in Week 2 or 3 of Term 1
- Students will present their election speeches in Week 4 prior to elections.
- Students in Kindergarten to Year 6 will vote for their preferred candidate.
- Preferential voting will take place with students able to act as scrutineers.
- The Opening of School Parliament will take place no later than the end of Week 6
- School Parliament will sit fortnightly at a set time.
- Parliament preparation will take place on the alternate fortnight
- Class Members will visit their Electorate (Class) prior to preparation time – 15 minutes will be allocated for this procedure
- Ministers and Shadow Ministers will meet with their committee to report and prepare for the next Sitting
- Year 5 will participate in Parliament Sitting from mid Term 3 as the gallery. They will be able to participate in Question Time
- The Staff form the senate and discuss Bills at the staff Meeting when they are approved or sent back to parliament for amendment and further debate