

Calling on young people to join our discussion on Education in Western Australia



Commissioner for Children and Young People

My name is Jacqueline McGowan-Jones and I am the Commissioner for Children and Young People for Western Australia.

My office and I work hard to make a better world for all children and young people. We:

- stand up for children and young people's rights
- listen to what children and young people have to say
- tell everyone about the great ideas children and young people have and the great things they do.

You should have the things you need to be safe and well, to learn and grow. You should also have a say in the things that matter to you. I share what I learn with people in charge so that they make things better for children and young people.

Education

Did you know that children and young people have a right to a good education?

When we feel safe at school, we are happy to go to school, play with friends and learn new things. When we learn new things, we feel good about ourselves and want to learn more.

I want to find out what we need to do for all children and young people to have a good education.

This is what I've learnt so far:

- Learning should begin in the early years so young children can grow strong brains and hearts.
- Schools should listen to the voices of children and young people about what works for them and their learning.
- Schools should be inclusive and fair. This means that every child and young person has a chance to go to school and to learn new things at their own level and pace.
- Schools should feel safe and positive. This means that you feel safe and happy to go to school, to learn and to join in with your class.
- Schools should work together with families to make sure that you are happy at school and that you are learning.
- Schools should be kind and helpful. This means that if you are struggling with something, you can ask for help.
- Teachers should encourage you to always do your best.

Now I want to know what you think

On the next page are some questions I'm asking the young people of WA.



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Questions for young people

- 1 How can schools help you to belong?
- 2 How can schools include children and young people in making decisions?
- 3 Do you get an opportunity to share your views at school on topics that are important to you?
- 4 How can schools help you to learn better?
- 5 Do you feel safe to speak up at school about things you're not happy about? Do your teachers listen to you?
- 6 What would make you feel safer to speak up at school?
- 7 Is there a student school council or group of older students at school that listens to your concerns and shares them with teachers? What does that look like? How does it work?
- 8 What do you like about school? What helps you to enjoy school and learning?

Your ideas

Please tell me any ideas you have for how we make education better for children and young people. Your voices matter.

You can submit your response [online](#) or email us at: info@ccyp.wa.gov.au



Share your ideas

