



**aspect**  
Community  
of Practice

**Inclusion through collaboration**

NSW Parliament event

**22<sup>nd</sup> October 2025**



# Statement of inclusion

## **Everybody is welcome here.**

We want you to feel it is OK to be authentically yourself. Please let us know if there is anything we can do that helps to include you in the event. Everyone is welcome to use their own strategies to help them feel relaxed.



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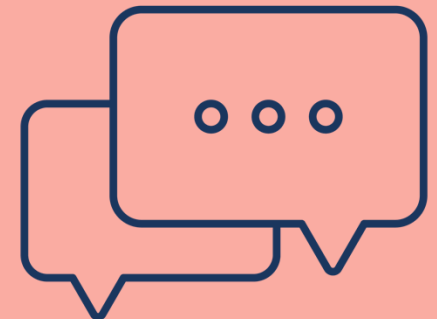


# About the event

We are hosting a Community of Practice to bring together teachers from Public, Catholic and Independent schools, alongside academic and allied health professionals.

Our focus is on creating inclusive schools where Autistic students can thrive. Right now, many education systems are not well designed to support this. As more Autistic students learn in mainstream classrooms, teachers and families are looking for strategies that recognise strengths, reduce barriers and foster genuine inclusion.

A Community of Practice offers space for collaboration. It allows teachers, school leaders and others to share ideas, reflect on challenges and learn from one another. By connecting across schools and sectors, we can develop more inclusive practices than any of us could achieve alone, while also listening to and valuing the insights of Autistic people and their communities.



# Getting to NSW Parliament House

- There are lots of ways I can get to Parliament House, including by **driving, train, bus, light rail, or walking** from nearby stations.
- I should choose the way that is **easiest and safest** for me.
  - If I catch the train, Martin Place is the closest train station to the event.
  - If I drive, I can park my car at The Domain parking station
- It's okay to ask someone for help to decide the best way to get to the event.



# Getting to NSW Parliament House

- I can type: NSW Parliament House, **6 Macquarie St, Sydney NSW** into **Google Maps** to see where it is.
- I can click this link if I'm using a device:  
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/gbExBhfkgo3u6BtS8>



Google Maps

# Public Transport

- Many people think using the train, light rail, or bus is the easiest way to get to Parliament House.
- It is about a 3-minute walk from **Martin Place Station** or a 5-minute walk from **St James Station**.
- If I catch a bus, I can get off on **Macquarie Street** or nearby **Elizabeth Street**.
- I can use <https://transportnsw.info/> to help plan how I will get there.



# Going inside **Parliament house**

- It's okay to feel **nervous** or **excited** before going to a new place or event.
- I can ask someone for **help** if I don't know **what to do** or **where to go**.
- I can **wait** until I feel ready to go inside, even if people are inside already.
- I need to walk along the **left-hand side of the front entrance** to the Parliament House sign.
- There may be a few **police or security** guards present, which could be overwhelming. They are there for my protection and to make me feel safe.
- It is **okay to take my time** and wait until I am ready to enter the room.



# Going inside Parliament House



Entrance and security



- The entrance to Parliament House is through this door.
- Look for the next to the '**PARLIAMENT HOUSE**' sign.
- This is where you will enter to go through security.



# Going inside Parliament House



**1.** Go through this door to get to Parliament House

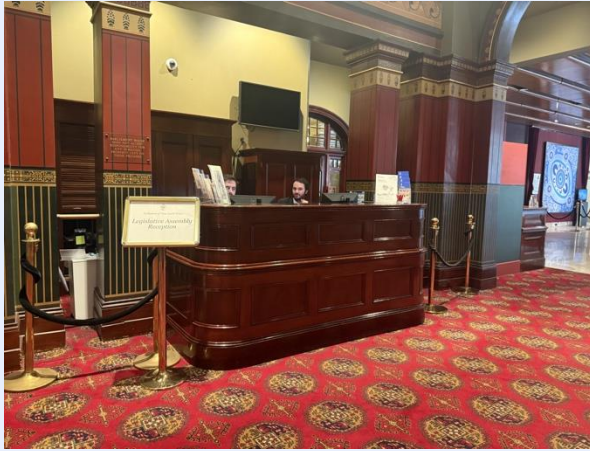


**2.** Follow the police instructions and have your bag scanned



**3.** Walk up the stairs to the main reception

# Going inside to the main event



**4.** Go to the main desk and tell them you are here for the Aspect event.



**5.** I may be asked to wait at the green chairs for someone to the venue. This maybe Meghan Williams.



**6.** Someone will walk with me down these stairs to the venue.

# Registration

- When I am inside, I will go to the main desk to register. This will be downstairs, next to the auditorium.
- I will tell the staff my **name and that I am attending the Community of Practice.**
- **Aspect staff** will be in the room to welcome you.
- I will then be given a **name badge.**



**The registration area**



# Toilets and changing facilities

- I can use the toilets by the auditorium.
- I can use the other toilets upstairs.
- If I need to go to the toilet during Community of Practice event I will be escorted to the toilets by someone from Parliament House.



**The toilet**



# Food and drinks

- There will be **food and drinks** for everyone.
- At 11am there will be morning tea which will be cupcakes, muffins and cookies. Coffee, tea and water will be available to drink.
- At 1pm lunch will be served. There will be sandwiches and wraps.
- People will stand while they talk, eat and drink with each other.
- I can eat morning tea and lunch.
- I don't have to eat morning tea or lunch if I do not want to.




Morning tea will be served downstairs







Lunch will be served upstairs in the speaker's garden.

# Some of the people I may meet

<b>Greg Warren MP</b> 	Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Premier Parliamentary Secretary for Education and Early Learning Parliamentary Secretary for Western Sydney
<b>Hon. Kate Washington MP</b> 	Minister for Families and Communities Minister for Disability Inclusion

# Some of the people I may meet

<b>Janelle Saffin MP</b>				Member for Lismore Co-chair of Parliamentary Group Friends of Autism
			The organisers of the Community of Practice event Please ask them any questions you have	
<b>Maryanne Gosling</b>	<b>Katie Fleet</b>	<b>Nicole Barrell</b>		

# Some of the people I may meet

- There will be other politicians that will pop in and out during the Morning Tea.
- Aspect staff will be on hand to introduce me to them or to assist with any questions I may have.
- "People may want to talk with me about inclusion because they value my knowledge and want to hear my point of view. It's okay to only share what I am comfortable with, and to choose not to answer certain questions."





# Other information – sensory experiences

During my visit to NSW Parliament House, I might have different sensory experiences. There will be:

- Very **bright** areas
- Very **dark** areas
- Long hallways
- Moving images or **flashing lights** on video **screens** and **computers**
- Calm, **quiet** areas
- Very **loud** areas
- People **clapping**
- Crowding
- Groups of people talking at the same time
- People talking with **microphones** through **speakers**
- **Smells** (such as food, drinks and perfumes)



I can bring  
anything I  
need to help  
feel better



# What should I wear?

At events like this one, some people choose to wear clothes they may not wear every day. They might take extra time to clean and iron their clothes to look nice. I can too if this makes me feel good!

Some things people wear are:

- ✓ Trousers, a skirt or dress
- ✓ Button-up shirt or blouse
- ✓ Clean shoes or heels

What not to wear:

- ✗ No jeans
- ✗ No sneakers/runners



If I am unsure what to wear, I can contact [kfleet@aspect.org.au](mailto:kfleet@aspect.org.au)

# Leaving the event

- I will leave the event via the **main door** of the building.
- Once down the steps, I turn left towards the **black gates**
- I will be back on **Macquarie Street**.





# Leaving the event



Exit



# Virtual tour of NSW Parliament House

I can preview NSW Parliament House before the event by going to the link [here](#)

