



Political engagement: The Role of the Media

Learning intentions

Understanding why people make, share and engage with the news is key to fostering active participation and understanding perspective. This activity will support students to consider the role of the media in parliament and the importance of considering different perspectives.

Activity overview

Students will explore the House of Representatives Press Gallery at Old Parliament House. Through questioning and considering the different roles the media plays in our democracy, students will gain an understanding of perspective and intention.

Materials

- Pre-recorded Old Parliament House videos: [House of Representatives Press Gallery episode](#)
- Paper
- Markers.

Activity outline

- 1 Watch the pre-recorded Old Parliament House – [House of Representatives Press Gallery episode](#).
- 2 Invite students, as they watch the program, to make notes, including keywords, drawings and any questions they may have.
- 3 Divide students into small groups and encourage them to think about the news from the perspective of a journalist, a politician and a member of the public. Help guide the conversation by inviting students to consider the question, 'Why is the news important to this person?.'
- 4 Offer students the opportunity to share their responses.

Extension activity

Select a piece of media content and invite students to view the information from the perspectives of a journalist, a social media news outlet or a politician.

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OLD PARLIAMENT HOUSE



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