

**Rule of Law
Institute of
Australia**

**Australia's
Magna Carta
Institute**

2019






PRINCIPLES

- No one is above the law
- Presumption of innocence and right to silence
- The law is capable of being known
- The law is made in an open and transparent way
- Model litigant rules
- The law and its administration is subject to open and free criticism by the people
- Separation of powers between legislature, executive and judiciary
- Independent judiciary
- Fair and prompt trials

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CULTURE OF LAWFULNESS

RULE OF LAW EDUCATION

At its heart, the rule of law relies upon a regulatory framework and community support through a 'culture of lawfulness.'

The freedoms we enjoy and the values which support our Australian society were developed over the last 230 years and were founded upon our English heritage, which traces back to the Magna Carta in 1215. The rule of law is underpinned by the separation of powers (judiciary, parliament and executive) within our Constitution which forms our regulatory framework. This framework has enabled Australia to become a stable, safe and democratic society,

However our regulatory framework is not enough to guarantee that our nation will continue to enjoy these freedoms into the future. Australia needs to maintain a 'culture of lawfulness,' where individuals not only support the rule of law in theory but are engaged in supporting and upholding its operation. A culture of lawfulness based upon the rule of law is best taught at schools, where young people are still learning about their rights, responsibilities and obligations and the world in which they live.

At Australia's Magna Carta Institute, our Rule of Law Education Program encourages active participation by teaching Australian students about the rule of law. Our court experience program and extensive online resources provide opportunities for teachers to engage students in this important learning experience.

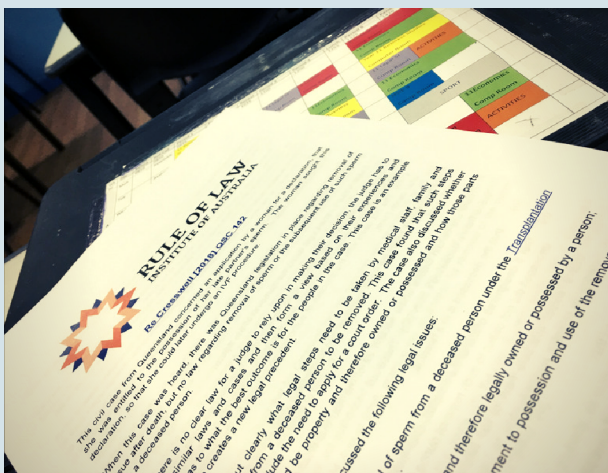


A society that **supports** the **rule of law** is not one composed of uncritical and obedient citizens; rather it is one whose citizens **understand** and **respect** just laws, are **aware** of their function, know how to **engage** with them constructively and how to **challenge** them as needed, within the appropriate mechanisms and institutions.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Educating Australian school students about the Magna Carta and the rule of law was our prime focus in 2019



Our education programs consisted of visits to schools, court excursions and online education materials and resources.

4,381

STUDENTS
ATTENDED COURT
EXCURSIONS

178

SCHOOLS
ATTENDED COURT
EXCURSIONS

267

TEACHERS
ATTENDED COURT
EXCURSIONS

LAW DAY OUT

7

44

6

COURT LOCATIONS

VOLUNTEER JUDGES

VOLUNTEER MAGISTRATES

The Institute developed the Law Day Out Program for years 10 -12 High School students studying legal studies or commerce who are encouraged through the Curriculum to visit the courts.

The Law Day Out Court program has reached capacity at the Sydney CBD Courts and has been extended to Wollongong, Parramatta, Newcastle and Campbelltown Courts.

Our program is managed by experienced educators and delivered by our team of Law Day Out facilitators.

Our Law Day Out facilitators, are predominately university law students. They guide the teachers and students around the Courts and explain the rule of law, judicial independence and other relevant legal principles.

Students are given the opportunity to meet with a judge or judicial officer, whom they have often just seen in action to discuss their work and the challenges related to the hearing/trial process, sentencing, law reform and judicial discretion.

Feedback received from teachers and students has shown the interaction with the judicial officer profoundly raises the student's respect for our legal system and understanding of the pivotal role of an independent judiciary to the rule of law.

The judiciary are also exceptionally supportive of the program and enjoy the opportunity to answer student questions.



Students outside the Wollongong courts with LDO facilitators Jackie Charles and Susan Walker.

WWW.RULEOFLAW.ORG.AU

RESOURCES

434,646

WEBSITE PAGE
VIEWS

#1 page

"WHAT IS THE
RULE OF LAW?"

#1 new

MASH UP: KELI
LANE CASE



Students learn about the rule of law through a role play developed by Magistrate Milledge.

Students around Australia access rule of law education resources at www.ruleoflaw.org.au. Articles include basic principles of the rule of law, case notes and teaching resources.

One new resources is a Court Role Play, developed by Her Honour Magistrate Jacqueline Milledge of the Local Court of NSW. This resource offers teachers the opportunity to introduce their students to the criminal hearing/ sentencing process, court personnel and their roles.

The most popular new resources are those that explain the legal principles behind prominent cases that students are hearing about in the media. These include cases such as Keli Lane and the Bowraville murders.



Robin Speed, receiving an OAM for 'Services to the Law' with Malcolm Stewart and Nicholas Cowdery AO.

CELEBRATIONS

ROBIN SPEED

Robin Speed founded Australia's Magna Carta Institute in 2014 and the Rule of Law Institute of Australia in 2009 and has worked tirelessly as Chairman to guide and direct the organisations.

At the beginning of 2019, Robin Speed, stepped down as Chairman of the Board and was presented with the honour of "Protector of the Law" for all his efforts.

Robin received a further honour on the Queens Birthday listing for his 'services to the law.'

John Roskam has enthusiastically taken over as Chairman of the Board.



John Roskam, Hugh Morgan AC, Sally Layson, Hon Dyson Heydon AC QC and Malcolm Stewart presenting Robin Speed OAM with an award as 'Protector of the Law.'

BOARD AND GOVERNING COMMITTEE

John Roskam (Chairman)
Malcolm Stewart (Vice Chairman)
Sally Layson (Treasurer)

David Lowy AM
Robin Speed OAM
Hon Dyson Heydon AC QC
Hugh Morgan AC
Emeritus Professor Geoffery Walker

STAFF

Sally Layson (General Manager)
Jackie Charles (Education Manager)
Christine Lloyd (Law Day Out Co-ordinator)
Fiona Leahy (Education Officer)

Anna Robinson (LDO Facilitator)
Genevieve Longman (LDO Facilitator)
Harley Swalha (LDO Facilitator)
Emily Layson (LDO Facilitator)
Virginia Valiozis (LDO Facilitator)
Susan Walker (LDO Facilitator)

S U P P O R T E R S



LOWY FAMILY FOUNDATION

Speed and Stracey Lawyers

Judicial Officers of the NSW Courts

The work of the Institute is not possible without the ongoing and generous support of the Lowy Family Foundation and Speed and Stracey Lawyers.

Our Law Day Out program is grateful to the many members of the NSW Judiciary who generously give their time to speak to students visiting their Courts.



The Australia's Magna Carta Public Fund has been endorsed by the Australian Taxation Office as a deductible gift recipient. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible for Australian Taxpayers.

ABN 77 838 378 807

THE RULE OF LAW IS..

an overarching principle where
Australians, including those in
power, are governed by laws.

This requires both community
support and understanding of
these laws and the just and fair
administration of the laws by
those in power.

-Robin Speed OAM,
founder Australia's Magna Carta
Institute



AUSTRALIA'S MAGNA CARTA INSTITUTE

RULE OF LAW EDUCATION

4/131 Macquarie Street
Sydney Australia
61 2 8076 8221
www.ruleoflaw.org.au