

Court Education Program

Volunteering with the Supreme Court



Each year over 7,000 students undertake law-related studies throughout Victoria and participate in the Court Education Program. The program supports schools in the delivery of VCE Legal Studies, by reinforcing students' knowledge and understanding of the justice system and those who administer it.

In the Supreme Court judges and associates are involved in the program, talking with school groups and discussing their role, the Court and Victoria's justice system.

The Program

The Supreme Court Education Team delivers a structured program for students.

Groups of year 11 and 12 students are booked for a morning (9.15am – midday) or afternoon (1.15pm – 3pm) in the Court's onsite program on almost every day of the school year.

The Court also runs a virtual program where teachers and students can participate in online education sessions.

Delivery of the online program

The Court's Communications and Engagement Team arranges online sessions between school groups and the Court. The Education Team members assist with hosting these sessions, usually conducted via Zoom.

Delivery of the onsite program

The program begins in an empty courtroom with a presentation about the Supreme Court before the students watch a trial in a courtroom.

A judge may be available to meet with the group, to discuss their role at the Court.

The Education Team accompanies school groups at all times when onsite. Team members liaise with Court staff when selecting a trial, and provide the school group with background information about the matter before entering the courtroom.

The Education Team

The Supreme Court Education Team is made up of volunteers, who bring a wealth of life experience to the program, from backgrounds working in the law, the courts, teaching, health, administration and business.

Requirements of the role

All volunteers must:

- attend a minimum of three observation sessions (onsite/online)
- undertake mentor-based training over a 3-month period (training period can be flexible)
- complete a satisfactory National Police check and Working with Children check (conducted by the Court)
- attend team meetings and professional development sessions (4 per year, usually in school holidays)
- be available to participate in 1 Court Education Program session per week (AM or PM) during school terms, (approx. 3-4 hours per session).

All appointments are subject to a 3-month probation period.

Key attributes for volunteering with the Supreme Court's Education Program:

- excellent organisational skills
- capacity to work as part of a team
- highly-developed interpersonal and communication skills