

CCYP AMBASSADOR PROGRAM 2020

Information Sheet



CCYP
Commissioner for Children
and Young People Tasmania

Who is the Commissioner for Children and Young People?

Hello, my name is **Leanne McLean** and I am the Commissioner for Children and Young People in Tasmania.

I am an independent person who speaks up for all Tasmanian children and young people under 18 years of age to help make sure Tasmania is a better place for them.

An important part of my job is to make sure that adult decision-makers take the views and opinions of children and young people into account when making decisions that affect them.

The CCYP Ambassador Program 2020

In April 2019 I launched the CCYP Ambassador Program which is a new opportunity for children and young people to have their voices heard on how things could be improved for children and young people in Tasmania.

CCYP Ambassadors help me to understand what is important for children and young people and will be provided with opportunities to come together to discuss key issues and influence decision-makers.

Almost 200 children and young people from around Tasmania were involved in the CCYP Ambassador Program in 2019. I am currently seeking expressions of interest from Tasmanian children and young people who are interested in being a CCYP Ambassador in 2020.

CCYP Ambassadors range in age from 9 to 17 years and come from a range of backgrounds and geographic locations around the State.



What do CCYP Ambassadors do?

Ambassadors have the opportunity to meet with me to:

- Share their opinions and ideas about what is important to them to help me be a strong advocate for Tasmanian children and young people.
- Learn about and promote the rights that children and young people have under the *UN Convention on the Rights of the Child*.
- Complete special projects. These projects are developed through conversations with CCYP Ambassadors and inform my work on behalf of children and young people in Tasmania.

How much time is involved?

CCYP Ambassadors will be required to attend two regional meetings in their region and one full day statewide event during 2020. CCYP Ambassadors will also engage with the Commissioner and each other through an online portal during the year. The meeting dates and times are set out below:

March — Regional Meetings

Burnie/ Devonport	Monday 23rd, 4.00–6.00pm
Launceston	Tuesday 24th, 4.00–6.00pm
Hobart	Monday 30th, 4.00–6.00pm; or Tuesday 31st, 4.00–6.00pm

June — Statewide Event

Launceston Conference Centre	Friday 19th, 10:30–4:00pm (all)
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September — Regional Meetings

Burnie/ Devonport	Monday 14th, 4.00–6.00pm
Launceston	Tuesday 15th, 4.00–6.00pm
Hobart	Monday 21st 4.00–6.00pm; or Tuesday 22nd, 4.00–6.00pm

How do CCYP Ambassadors get to meetings?

CCYP Ambassadors will be required to make their own transport arrangements to attend meetings. If this poses difficulties, or Ambassadors have particular needs to be able to participate, please contact my office to discuss how we may be able help. Some schools may also be able to support CCYP Ambassadors to get to meetings.

How long is membership for?

CCYP Ambassadors will be appointed for the calendar year. Members will be invited to roll over their membership into the new calendar year provided they have not yet turned 18. Members may discontinue their membership at any time. Membership ceases at age 18.

What supports are available to CCYP Ambassadors?

CCYP Ambassadors are supported to participate in the program by my office and provided with resources to help them learn about my role and children's rights. CCYP Ambassadors may also receive some support from their school to participate in the program. I encourage you to talk with your school if you need additional support.

CCYP Ambassadors will be able to communicate with me and each other at meetings and through an online community which is currently under development and will be launched in early 2020.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF BEING A CCYP AMBASSADOR?

- Greater awareness and understanding of children's rights and the role of CCYP
- Leadership opportunities
- Opportunities to meet and work with other young people from across Tasmania on key issues.
- Opportunities to speak with key decision makers in Tasmania

WHAT SKILLS WILL CCYP AMBASSADORS DEVELOP?

- Communication
- Coordination
- Advocacy
- Problem solving
- Decision making
- Cultural awareness
- Media engagement
- Confidence
- Facilitation
- Leadership



Who can apply to be a CCYP Ambassador?

In 2020, the CCYP Ambassador Program is open to children and young people from 9 years of age. Applicants need to be aged less than 18 years of age.

Applications are encouraged from children and young people from different locations, backgrounds and life experiences.



Commissioner for Children and Young People (Tas)

1/119 Macquarie Street Hobart TAS 7000
GPO Box 708 Hobart TAS 7001
(03) 6166 1366
www.childcomm.tas.gov.au



How do I apply to be a CCYP Ambassador?

There are a few ways you can apply to be a CCYP Ambassador, which are listed below. All applications will be due by **5pm on Friday 28th February 2020**.

By online form: You can fill out a short online form at www.childcomm.tas.gov.au

By email: You can email me at ccyp.ambassadors@childcomm.tas.gov.au with your name, age, school, which part of Tasmania you are located and your answers to two questions:

1. Why are you interested in becoming a CCYP Ambassador?
2. Tell me one thing you think could be changed or improved to make Tasmania a better place for children and young people.

If you would prefer to do this as an audio or video piece you can just include the link when you apply.

Another way: If you want to apply but do not feel comfortable using the online form or email, you can get in touch with us so that we can find a way that is accessible for you.

We are committed to upholding the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations. Should you have any questions or concerns in relation to child safety, please contact my office on (03) 61661366 or email us at:

ccyp.ambassadors@childcomm.tas.gov.au

I look forward to receiving your applications.

Leanne McLean

Commissioner for Children
and Young People Tasmania