



Coastal Connection by Bianca Gardiner

# TALKLAW®

TalkLaw® provides high school students with practical information about the law, with a focus on helping them to understand and protect their legal rights, as well as to avoid legal problems in the future. This interactive program also provides young people opportunities to meet lawyers from KWM and our commercial clients, and get behind the scenes access to see what it's like to work in one of Australia's leading law firms.

## DELIVERY METHODS

Lawyers from KWM and participating clients can deliver TalkLaw® either in person at school or via teleconferencing platform 'WebEx'. We can also accommodate your preferred browser.

Volunteers from KWM and our participating clients work through discussion materials related to the topics listed below. Program topics are usually chosen by the school, to ensure the legal information provided is of most relevance to the students.

A copy of the TalkLaw® materials are provided to the school for approval prior to program delivery.

TalkLaw® is a community legal education initiative. No legal advice is provided at any stage of the program. Rather, high level information relating to legal rights and responsibilities is provided in engaging facilitated small group discussions.

## TALKLAW® MODULES

- **Social media and the internet:** Engages young people to consider and discuss possible consequences of their actions on social media, and provides solutions to online harassment.
- **Turning 18:** Provides young people with information about what changes in a legal sense when they turn 18, and how to navigate the legal consequences of their responsibilities.
- **Police powers and their limits:** Provides young people with information about their rights and responsibilities when talking to police and the possible consequences of minor crimes.

- **Discrimination:** Provides young people with information about what discrimination is, how it can occur in different settings, and action they can take if they feel they or someone else has been discriminated against.
- **Jobs:** Provides young people with information about their basic rights at work and how they can deal with employers to enforce their rights.

## MOCK TRIAL

The final TalkLaw® session is a mock trial. We can deliver this session virtually, or in-person either at KWM offices or at school.

The mock trial can be offered on the topics of either Discrimination, Police Powers or Jobs. Students will be supported by volunteers to prepare and deliver their arguments, cross-examine witnesses, and deliver closing remarks.

## TALKLAW® DELIVERY

KWM has delivered the program in the following schools with the assistance of these partners.

CITY	HIGH SCHOOL	PARTNER
SYDNEY	Casula High School Matraville Sports High School Alexandra Park Community School Canterbury Boys High School	NAB + Woolworths UNSW Suncorp JP Morgan + GE
MELBOURNE	Hume Central Secondary College Cranbourne Secondary College Lalor Secondary College The Grange P-12 College	ANZ ANZ NAB Australian Unity
BRISBANE	Yeronga State High School Balmoral State High School	Telstra Suncorp
PERTH	Balga Senior High School	South32

## CHILD PROTECTION

Each of the Australian states and territories have extensive child protection legislation, and KWM is committed to complying with these child protection requirements.

As a matter of practice when delivering TalkLaw®, we also:

- require all volunteers to undertake training, which includes a specific section on child protection;
- require a teacher or supervisor to always be present when the sessions are being conducted; and
- instruct volunteers not to contact students outside the program.

## IMPACT

We have received incredibly positive feedback from both the students and teachers at all the schools where we deliver TalkLaw®.

TalkLaw® not only teaches students about the way the law impacts them as young people, it improves their confidence contributing to discussions and sharing opinions through engaging interactive sessions.

We are also told meeting our lawyers encourages students to think about possible career pathways they may not have previously considered.

## NEXT STEPS

We would be happy to discuss the finer details of this program with you and answer any questions.



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