

**Joint Select Committee on Cyber-Safety**Chair: Senator Catryna Bilyk  
Deputy Chair: Alex Hawke MP

## Cyber-Safety Committee visit to Indigenous schools in Queensland

On Tuesday 7 May, members of the Joint Select Committee on Cyber-Safety will visit two Indigenous community schools in Brisbane to discuss cyber-safety concerns with the students and their teachers. These visits are part of the committee's current inquiry into issues surrounding cyber-safety for Indigenous Australians.

The Committee Chair, Senator Catryna Bilyk, said, "the Committee has previously taken evidence suggesting that Indigenous Australians are increasingly subject to cyber-bullying and online racism. Through these visits to Southside Education and The Murri School, the committee hopes to gain a better insight into the cyber-safety concerns of young Indigenous people".

The committee will visit Southside Education, a small independent secondary school for young women, in the morning. Southside Education has a diverse student body from a range of different cultural backgrounds, including many Indigenous students.

In the afternoon the committee will visit the Aboriginal and Islander Independent Community School (known as The Murri School). The Murri School teaches primary and secondary students and is community owned and controlled.

Committee Member and the Member for Moreton, Mr Graham Perrett MP, welcomed the Committee's visit to the electorate. "Cyber-safety is an issue of particular concern to parents in Moreton. It is important for the committee's inquiry into cyber-safety for Indigenous Australians to be informed by the views of the principals, teachers and students of these schools".

Senator Bilyk also noted that the wider inquiry is concerned with cyber-safety issues for all Indigenous Australians, not just young people.

However, "the committee's goal in the short timeframe before the federal election is to identify issues of concern regarding the cyber-safety of Indigenous Australians. A brief report will be presented to federal parliament making recommendations for further inquiry in the next parliament," Senator Bilyk said.

For further information on the inquiry visit the committee's website: [www.aph.gov.au/cybersafety-indigenous](http://www.aph.gov.au/cybersafety-indigenous) or phone the Secretariat on (02) 6277 4202.

**For media comment:** please contact the Committee Chair, Senator Catryna Bilyk on (03) 6229 4444 or 0419 694 512

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