



GOVERNMENT HOUSE
QUEENSLAND

**Foreword from the Governor of Queensland
for the 2017 Queensland Children's Week**

That children have inalienable rights is seen as so self-evident and so fundamental that the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child has been met with almost universal acceptance throughout the world.

The 2017 theme of Children's Week centres around Article 29 of the Convention, which recognises that each child is an individual, and that education should develop each individual's personality and talents to the fullest. This theme recognises also that the aim of education is to teach children not only how to read and write, but how to respect the world around them and how to respect the values and cultures of all who live in it.

These laudable aims are brought to life by the many organisations across Queensland devoted to the education and welfare of our children. Our children are fortunate in having access to world-class educational opportunities, which begin long before the start of formal schooling.

As Patron of Queensland Children's Week, I thank the organisations and associations involved in this week's activities for their ongoing commitment to Children's Week, and for the encouragement and support they give every child in their care. Together with parents and carers they uphold the spirit of Article 29, enabling each child to achieve their greatest potential.

The future of a country can be seen in its children. They are our greatest asset, and our greatest investment. I am grateful for the opportunities available to our children, and I hope that every family thoroughly enjoys this year's Children's Week.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul de Jersey".

His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC
Governor of Queensland