

## The Prime Minister, Mr Kevin Rudd, meets Cameron Young.



This picture was taken on 22 October 2009.

My name is Cameron Young. I am 13 years old, in year 8 at Oxley High School, Tamworth.

The Prime Minister of Australia, Mr Kevin Rudd, decided on September 3 that he wanted to do something positive for the youth of Australia.

So he announced that the Government would develop a National Strategy for Young Australians.

He asked the Minister for early Childhood Education Child Care and Youth, the Honorable Kate Ellis M.P. to begin, by arranging a round table discussion, with young people from all over Australia, at Parliament House in Canberra, on Thursday 22 October 2009.

I was one of twenty young Australians who were invited to attend this Forum. I was nominated by our Federal Member of Parliament Mr Tony Windsor.



I prepared for the Forum by doing some homework. I talked to as many people as I could. I asked them what they thought were important issues concerning the youth of Australia.

I ended up with lots of information contributed by lots of different people – some young, some middle aged and some quite old. I typed up all the information and took it to Parliament house.

I had lunch with Mr Tony Windsor M.P. who represents all the tens of thousands of people in our electorate, which covers an area of 54,000 square kilometers.

I participated in the Forum.

I also met the Hon. Kate Ellis M.P. who organized the Forums.

To my great surprise, I bumped into Kevin Rudd, Prime Minister of Australia. He was surprised to meet one of the young people who had been invited to the Forum. We had a conversation about the Youth Forum and I got my picture taken with him.

This photo shows you that an ordinary student, in year 8, at Oxley High School, can do his homework and get his ideas heard in Australia's National Capital, by Parliamentarians and even the Prime Minister of Australia.

If I could do this, imagine what you could do if you put your mind to it.

Imagine what we could all get done, if we all worked together.

Kind regards,  
Cameron Young