

2026 Premier's

Reading Challenge

The power of reading

Individual information kit



ABOUT THE CHALLENGE

The Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) is an annual state-wide initiative for state and non-state schools and home-educated students up to Year 9, as well as children attending early childhood centres. Since the program's inception in 2006, more than 22 million books have been read. In 2025, 216,000 school, early childhood and individual readers participated in the challenge reading more than 1.9 million books throughout the PRC reading period.

The challenge is not a competition however aims to improve literacy and encourage children to read widely for pleasure and learning. Students can participate in the challenge within their school or as individual readers (home-educated students or students whose schools are not participating in the program).

For a student to successfully complete the challenge they must read or experience the allocated number of books for their year level during the reading period. Students who complete the challenge have their efforts recognised through the receipt of a Certificate of Achievement.

Why read?

Literacy skills are vital to ensuring children have the best chance to succeed in their schooling and life. The PRC is an opportunity for students to be enthusiastic about reading, writing, authors and illustrators. Reading a variety of books builds vocabulary and knowledge, improves spelling and comprehension, can improve confidence and is also a great way to relax.

Key dates

Date	Activity
27 April 2026	Registration opens via the PRC online database
11 May 2026	Reading period commences for Prep – Year 9 students
28 August 2026	Reading period finishes for Prep – Year 9 students
31 August – 11 September 2026	Student reading achievements to be entered into the PRC online database
Early October 2026	Certificates of Achievement mailed to homes
2 – 13 November 2026	PRC Celebration Weeks

Reading requirements

While there is no compulsory reading list for the challenge, book lists have been developed by teacher librarians and in conjunction with the Department of Education's (DoE) State Schools – Curriculum branch, to help students, teachers, parents and carers select age appropriate reading material. The book lists are available on the [PRC website](#) and have been divided into year level groups.

Students are encouraged to select a range of fiction and non-fiction books suited to their reading ability. Students are welcome to read books from previous years' book lists and from lists for other year levels.

Book titles are also available in [Chinese, French, German, Indonesian, Italian and Japanese](#). Students learning languages from Prep (or students with a family background in a language other than English) can choose to read or experience any books in additional languages to English as part of the challenge. Books in additional languages are not in year-level groups. Language teachers will be able to make decisions about appropriate books for students at their schools based on their understanding of students' level of language learning and their interests.

To successfully complete the PRC, students must read or experience the number of books indicated in the table below in English or additional languages.

Year level	Number of books
Prep – Year 2	Read or experience 20 books
Years 3 – 4	20 books
Years 5 – 9	15 books

The requirement for Year 5 through to Year 9 students to read 15 books acknowledges that older students are likely to select longer, more complex books that may take them longer to read.

If they have time, students are welcome to read more books than the challenge requirements. All books will go towards Queensland's total PRC tally, so the more the better! When entering student reader records to the database, you won't need to input book titles, just the total number of books read.

The following activities can be counted towards the challenge:

- reading independently
- shared reading
- being read to (Prep – Year 2 for books written in English; and all year levels for additional languages).

The following literature forms can be counted towards the challenge:

- printed books
- e-books, virtual books and digital publications
- graphic novels and comic books
- audio and braille books
- newspapers, magazines and recipe books
- books in additional languages (other than English).

Download the [Individual Reader Record Form](#) to get started.

Individual Reader Record Form		2026 Premier's Reading Challenge	
Student name:	John Smith	Teacher name:	Miss Brown
School:	Abercorn State School	Year level:	2
		Class:	2:A
Book number	Book title/Author	Book number	Book title/Author
1	The Very Hungry Caterpillar - Erin Carle	12	
2		13	

Certificates and prizes

Certificates of Achievement will be mailed to homes of individual readers in time for the PRC Celebration Weeks.

A Certificate of Participation will be available to download from the PRC website to reward participants for their reading achievements if they participated but did not complete the challenge.

Participants who complete the challenge will be in the running to win a book voucher.

Celebration weeks

Parents/carers are encouraged to celebrate student reading achievements by holding home celebrations during the PRC Celebration Weeks in November 2026.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

This information kit is for students who are home-educated or whose school is not participating in the PRC. Before registering as an individual reader, students attending a Queensland school should ensure their school is not participating in the challenge.

For your child to participate in the challenge as an individual reader, please follow the steps below.

Step 1: Register Parent/carer to register student to participate via the PRC database . For detailed instructions on how to register see page 7 of this information kit.	April – May 2026
Step 2: Download the reader record form Download the individual reader record form from the PRC website . Students who participate in the challenge can keep track of their progress by using the reader record form.	
Step 3: Reading period Students to read or experience the allocated number of books for their year level during the reading period.	11 May – 28 August 2026
Step 4: Submit student achievements and preview certificates Parent/carer to enter the number of books read into the PRC database and preview the Certificate of Achievement to complete the challenge.	Database cut off 11 September 2026
Step 5: Celebrate reading achievements Certificates of Achievement will be mailed to the homes of individual readers in October in time for the Celebration Weeks. Parents/carers are encouraged to celebrate student reading achievements by holding home celebrations during the PRC Celebration Weeks.	2 – 13 November 2026

TIPS FOR PARTICIPATION

Encouraging students to read

Parents, carers, teachers, aides, siblings, student buddies and classmates play an important role in encouraging students to develop a love of reading. Some ideas to consider are:

- make time to read each day – ensure this time is fun and exciting
- suggest books, authors or themes your child may enjoy
- retell stories that you have enjoyed
- make book recommendations with friends
- for students with language backgrounds other than English, encourage them to read books in their background language/s. Language book lists are available on our [Book lists page](#). Your local public library may have books available in additional languages and/or may be able to source books in additional languages to meet the needs of your community. The [Brisbane School of Distance Education's library](#) may also be able to assist with loans of books on the additional languages book lists.

Encouraging your child to participate in the PRC

- Make the PRC part of their daily or weekly routine
- Celebrate achievements throughout the challenge
- Keep the reader record form in a prominent place to showcase progress
- Download and print the bookmark from the PRC website for keep track of their reading progress.

HOW TO USE THE DATABASE

Step 1: Registration	page 7
Step 2: Enter participant details	page 9
Step 3: Update number of books read	page 10
Step 4: Completing the challenge	page 11
How to change your details or password	page 13

HOW TO REGISTER

Follow the steps below to register the child to participate in this year's challenge.

Step 1: Registration

1. Open the PRC database - <http://prc.median.com.au>.
2. Click the 'Register' button on the PRC database home page.



2026 Premier's Reading Challenge

The Premier's Reading Challenge is an annual statewide initiative for state and non-state schools and home-educated students up to Year 9, and children enrolled in an early childhood centre or program.

The challenge is not a competition but aims to improve literacy and encourage children to read widely for pleasure and learning. Children and students can participate in the challenge within their school, early childhood centre or as individual readers (home-educated students or students whose schools are not participating in the program).

For Prep — Year 9 students to successfully complete the challenge they must read or experience an allocated number of books based upon their year level during the reading period.

Early childhood centres can participate in an abridged version of the challenge by tallying the total number of book experiences or literary activities over a one week period.

Children and students who complete the challenge will have their efforts recognised through the receipt of a Certificate of Achievement.

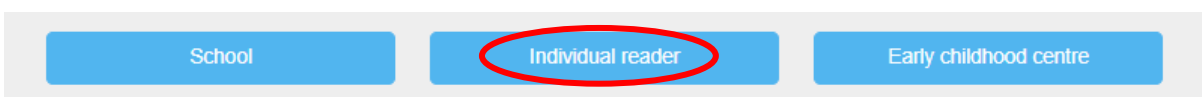
For further information visit the Premier's Reading Challenge [website](#).

Key dates

27 April 2026	PRC launch date
11 May 2026	Reading period commences for Prep to Year 9 students
17 - 28 August 2026	Early childhood participation period
22 - 28 August 2026	CBCA Children's Book Week
28 August 2026	Reading period finishes for Prep to Year 9 students. Student reader record forms submitted to schools
11 September 2026	All reading data must be finalised in the database and Certificate of Participation available for download
October 2026	Certificates of Achievement issued
2 - 13 November 2026	Premier's Reading Challenge celebration weeks

[Register](#) [Log in](#)

3. Click on the 'Individual reader' button. An individual reader is a Prep to Year 9 student who is home educated or whose school is not participating in the Premier's Reading Challenge. Before registering as an individual reader, students attending a Queensland school should ensure that their school is not participating in the challenge.



4. Enter your contact details and click the 'Register' button.

The image shows a registration form with the following fields and values:

- First name: Jane
- Surname: Doe
- Email address: me@example.com
- Phone: 12345678
- Password: Abode1
- Confirm password: Repeat the password

Address details:

- Find address: Enter an address
- Address line 1: Address line 1.....
- Address line 2: Address line 2.....
- Address line 3: Address line 3.....
- Suburb: Suburb...
- State: QLD
- Postcode: 4 digit Australian postcode

A blue 'Register' button is highlighted with a red oval. A note next to the password field states: "Note: Password must be at least six characters including one uppercase letter, one lower case letter and alphanumeric characters."

5. You will receive an email to confirm your registration from 'Premier's Reading Challenge <PRC@median.com.au>'. The email will include your login details for the PRC database. Please keep these details as you will need to log back into the database throughout the challenge.
6. After you click the 'Register' button you will be taken to the 'Participant details' screen.

Step 2: Enter participant details

1. To enter a participant, click on the 'Add child' button on the right hand side of the screen.



Participant details

Go Back **+ Add Child**

Surname	First name	Age	Year level	Books read	Completed	School name (if applicable)
No record found						

2. Enter all information for each participant as per the available fields. Once you have entered these details press 'Save'. Please note the name as it appears in the database will be how it appears on the certificates. **Use 0 under 'books read' until the challenge has been completed.**

Participant details

Go Back **+ Add Child**

Surname	First name	Age	Year level	Books read	Completed	School name (if applicable)	
Smith	John	6	Prep	0	In Progress		Edit Delete

Repeat Step 2 to add more participants.

3. You can **edit** or **delete** the participant by clicking 'Edit' or 'Delete' in the column on the right hand side of the screen.

Participant details

Go Back **+ Add Child**

Surname	First name	Age	Year level	Books read	Completed	School name (if applicable)	
Smith	John	6	Prep	0	In Progress		Edit Delete

Step 3: Update number of books read

Each participant needs to fill out an [individual reader record form](#) to make it simple for parents/carers to record books read and enter this number into the PRC database by Friday 11 September 2026.

To enter the number of books read click the 'Edit' button next to the student's name on the participant details screen. Enter the books read and click 'Save'.

Participant details

[Go Back](#) [+ Add Child](#)

Surname	First name	Age	Year level	Books read	Completed	School name (if applicable)	
Smith	John	6	Prep	0	In Progress		Edit Delete

If the participant has read the required number of books to complete, it will appear completed.

Participant details

[Go Back](#) [+ Add Child](#)

Surname	First name	Age	Year level	Books read	Completed	School name (if applicable)	
Smith	John	6	Prep	25	Completed		Edit Delete

Step 4: Completing the challenge

1. Once the reading period has concluded and the total number of books read has been added to the database, you can complete the challenge by clicking on the 'Complete challenge' button below. This is a multi-step process.

Once the final number of books read per student have been added to the database, you can complete the challenge by clicking the 'Complete challenge' button that will appear below.



2. Preview the certificates

Preview certificates to ensure they are correct. Click on the 'Preview certificate' button to be sent an email with the certificates attached. If there are any amendments to be made, make them in the database. You must return to the database to complete.

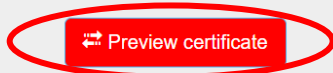
To complete the Premier's Reading Challenge please follow the steps below:

1. Preview the certificates

By clicking on the button below you will be sent an email to preview your Premier's Reading Challenge certificates for the participants who completed the challenge.

Please check all certificates for the correct spelling.

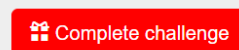
Please note certificates will be printed exactly as they appear in the email attachment unless amended online.



2. Complete challenge

Once all certificates have been checked and the database corrected, click the 'Complete challenge' button below.

Once you have completed the challenge you will no longer be able to edit your records.

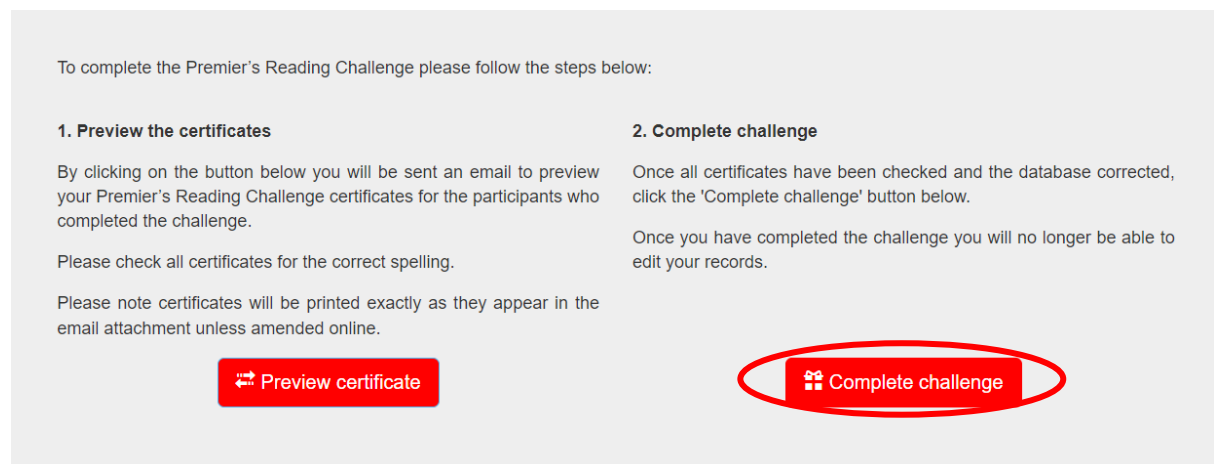


3. Complete challenge

Once all the certificates have been checked and any changes made, you can now complete the challenge by clicking on the 'Complete challenge' button below. Once you have completed the challenge you will no longer be able to edit your records.

To complete the Premier's Reading Challenge please follow the steps below:

<p>1. Preview the certificates</p> <p>By clicking on the button below you will be sent an email to preview your Premier's Reading Challenge certificates for the participants who completed the challenge.</p> <p>Please check all certificates for the correct spelling.</p> <p>Please note certificates will be printed exactly as they appear in the email attachment unless amended online.</p>	<p>2. Complete challenge</p> <p>Once all certificates have been checked and the database corrected, click the 'Complete challenge' button below.</p> <p>Once you have completed the challenge you will no longer be able to edit your records.</p>
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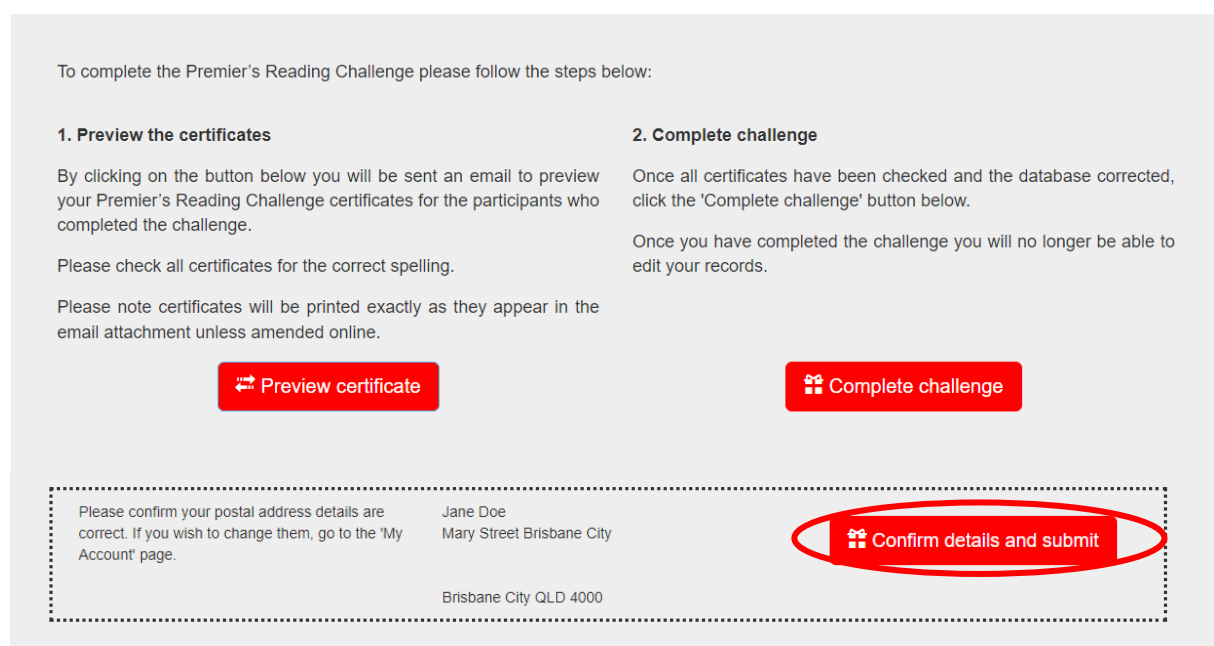


4. Confirm postal address

Check that your postal details are correct (this is where the certificates will be sent) and click on 'Confirm details and submit'. If you wish to change the postal address, go to the 'My Account' page which can be found in the drop down box under 'Hello, *name*' button in the top right hand corner of the screen.

To complete the Premier's Reading Challenge please follow the steps below:

<p>1. Preview the certificates</p> <p>By clicking on the button below you will be sent an email to preview your Premier's Reading Challenge certificates for the participants who completed the challenge.</p> <p>Please check all certificates for the correct spelling.</p> <p>Please note certificates will be printed exactly as they appear in the email attachment unless amended online.</p>	<p>2. Complete challenge</p> <p>Once all certificates have been checked and the database corrected, click the 'Complete challenge' button below.</p> <p>Once you have completed the challenge you will no longer be able to edit your records.</p>
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Once the process has been completed, the text below will appear on the 'Complete challenge' page. You will also receive a confirmation email stating you have completed the challenge.

Congratulations! You have successfully completed the 2026 Premier's Reading Challenge.

Schools are encouraged to celebrate student reading achievements by presenting certificates during the PRC Celebration Weeks in October 2026.

For participants who successfully completed the challenge, Certificates of Achievement will be mailed to schools in early October. A Certificate of Participation will be available for download from the PRC website for students who participated but did not complete the challenge.

If you have not received your certificates by 19 October 2026, please contact the program manager via email at reading.challenge@qed.qld.gov.au. Missing certificates will not be reprinted or resent out after this date.

For further information please visit the Premier's Reading Challenge [website](#).

Important: make sure to look out for your confirmation email. If you do not receive one, check your junk mail. If you're still unable to locate it, it is likely you have not completed the process. Log back in and follow the 'complete challenge' prompts.

How to change your details or password:

If you need to change your details or password click the 'Hello, *name*' button in the top right hand corner of the screen, and select 'My Account'.

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar with the title '2026 Premier's Reading Challenge' and the Queensland Government logo. Below the navigation bar, the 'Participant details' page is displayed. A table lists participant information, and the 'My Account' option is highlighted in the top right corner.

Surname	First name	Age	Year level	Books read	Completed	School name (if applicable)	
Smith	John	6	Prep	25	✓ Completed		Edit Delete

Change your password by selecting 'Change' next to 'Password'.

Or edit your details and select 'Save'.

Where to find books and online resources

With more than 300 libraries in Queensland, [locate a library near you](#) and visit their website for opening hours and available resources.

- [Australian Publishers Association](#)
- [BorrowBox](#)
- [Brisbane City Council Library Services](#)
- [Children and Young People with Disability Australia](#)
- [Dandiiri Library](#)
- [learning@home](#)
- [First 5 Forever](#)
- [National Library of Australia](#)
- [Project Gutenberg](#)
- [Queensland State Schools eBooks Digital Library](#) (for state schools only, log in required)
- [Reading and Writing Disorders](#)
- [State Library of Queensland](#)
- [Story Box Library](#)
- [The Children's Book Council of Australia](#)
- [Tumble Book Library](#)
- [Vision Australia Library](#) – become a member for free.

For an alternate format library provided by the department's Queensland Statewide Vision Impairment Services, email 3140_AFL@eq.edu.au for more information.

[PRC book list portal](#)

New books are added every year to the PRC book lists. Search by themes or authors to help select books your students/children will love. The book lists offer suggestions only, participants can read any materials that are available or of interest to them.

Book suggestions from other state PRC programs

New South Wales: <https://online.education.nsw.gov.au/prc/booklist/home.html>

South Australia: <https://premiersreadingchallenge.sa.edu.au/book-list/>

Victoria: <https://vprc.eduweb.vic.gov.au/searchbooklist>

FURTHER INFORMATION

Program Manager

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