

3 April 2024

Mayoral Message

Dear Residents



It is time for our youth to express, empower and get loud about what they believe in.

There's no denying that growing up can be tough. Navigating school, friendships and the growing pressures of this day and age, it's no surprise that more and more young people find it difficult to fully express their personalities and values.

It is our responsibility as adults, parents and leaders to guide our youth onto the right paths and encourage freedom of expression in everything they do.

It is also up to us to listen and learn from the insightful perspectives our young leaders provide on the continually changing world around us.

As a father myself, I know that all we want for our children is the best, and I extend my desire for my own children's success to the over 65,000 young people in Canterbury-Bankstown.

All of whom are capable of great things.

Council is a pioneer in supporting our local young people and I am especially proud of our own youth team who work tirelessly to provide unmatched services that ensure our young people stay resilient and connected to their community.

As I travel around our City, I come across so many talented and creative young people who prove how great it is to grow up in Canterbury-Bankstown. Whether it's their leadership, academics, sporting achievements or volunteer work, our youth are doing great things.

This year, Youth Week not only provides a wide range of events, from Future Pathways Expeditions to Basketball Competitions, but also provides young locals with opportunities to lead and organise some of the activities.

From **11-21 April**, young people in our City will be able to practise the skills that are important to them and learn more about how they want to navigate their place in the world.

Events are mostly FREE or low cost to help make the activities accessible to all youth in our community.

I encourage all our young people to check out the full program and get involved at **cb.city/YouthWeek**

Regards



Clr Bilal El-Hayek
MAYOR

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