

Let MPs feel the heat

The Cook Labor Government's Cool the Schools program promised \$89.1 million to upgrade air-conditioning in 45 public schools, with \$43.3 million allocated in the 2025-26 Budget and the balance to follow in 2026-27.

That sounds like a welcome breath of cool air, except that, as of May, only five schools had received the upgrade. At that rate, some students may graduate before their classrooms do.

There appears to be no delays in building the unwanted racetrack or setting up the rugby team, or organising and spending our money on thugs fighting in the ring.

Perhaps the process could be hurried along by a simple act of solidarity — until every one of the 45 schools is properly cooled, the air-conditioning in Parliament House and local parliamentary offices should be switched off.

A few days of debating in the same conditions endured by our schoolchildren might do wonders for both empathy and efficiency.

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