

Department for Reformatory Schools, State Government of Victoria

1901 – 1954

Details

The Department for Reformatory Schools of the new State Government of Victoria, established with federation in 1901, was responsible for convicted juveniles. The Children's Welfare Act 1954 (No.5817) provided for the abolition of the Department for Reformatory Schools. Thereafter, responsibility for juvenile offenders and reformatory schools (from 1954 known as juvenile schools) was assumed by the Children's Welfare Department.

The Department for Reformatory Schools came into being following the proclamation of the Juvenile Offenders' Act in 1887. This Act assigned responsibility for convicted juveniles to the Department for Reformatory Schools, and it assigned responsibility for 'neglected' children to the Department for Neglected Children. Despite the separation of responsibilities brought about by the 1887 Juvenile Offenders' Act, the Department for Reformatory Schools was administered by the Victorian government jointly with the Department for Neglected Children, which was renamed the Children's Welfare Department in 1924. The Children's Welfare Act 1954 (No.5817) provided for the abolition of the Department for Reformatory Schools. Thereafter, responsibility for juvenile offenders and reformatory schools (from 1954 known as juvenile schools) was assumed by the Children's Welfare Department.

More info

Chronology

- Department for Reformatory Schools, Colony of Victoria (1887 - 1900)
 - **Department for Reformatory Schools, State Government of Victoria (1901 – 1954)**

Related Entries

Ran

- [The 'John Murray' Training Ship \(1910 - 1918\)](#)

Related Organisations

- [Department for Neglected Children, State Government of Victoria \(1901 - 1924\)](#)
The Department for Neglected Children was responsible for neglected children, while the Department of Reformatory Schools was responsible for juvenile offenders.
- [Children's Welfare Department, State Government of Victoria \(1924 - 1960\)](#)
In 1954 the Children's Welfare Department took over the functions of the Department of Reformatory Schools.

Related Legislation

- [Children's Welfare Act 1954, Victoria \(1955 - 1959\)](#)
The Department of Reformatory Schools was abolished by the Children's Welfare Act 1954.

Resources

- Department for Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools, [Report of the Secretary and Inspector for the year ... / Department for Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools.](#), 1896 - 1924
- *Children's Welfare Department and Reformatory Schools. Report of the Secretary and Inspector.*, 1924 - 1954

Records

Records held by other organisations

- [Victorian Government Wardship and/or Out of Home Care Records \(1864 - current\)](#)
The Department for Reformatory Schools maintained volumes of Annual Reports from 1900 to 1908.
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