

Training School

1881 – 1926

Details

Training schools were established in Tasmania by the *Training Schools Act* of 1867. A training school was for children who had committed an offence or who were believed to be in danger of doing so.

Training schools were established by the *Training Schools Act* of 1867. They were an attempt to separate children who were considered neglected from those considered to be delinquent. Neglected children were placed in an industrial school or the boarding out system, while the others were sent to a training school. In reality, the difference was not clear cut and children who were state wards because of neglect might be placed in a training school because they were difficult to manage or had absconded. On one occasion, FR Seager, the Secretary of the Neglected Children's Department, placed some boys who had been neglected at the Boys' Training School to help with the farm work.

Although the legislation envisaged training schools for boys and girls, the only girls' training school, the Hobart Girls' Training School, closed in 1907. This was because girls could be sent to the newly established rescue homes, where the emphasis was on training them in sexual morality. Social reformers of the day placed less importance on this issue for boys. Instead, they wanted to prevent them from breaking the law. This meant that the Boys' Training School stayed open longer. It also had more influence on future policy. The Boys' Training School lasted until 1926, when it became Ashley Home for Boys. Although it had a new name, it kept much of the character of the former Boys' Training School. In 1999, it became the Ashley Youth Detention Centre, which, in 2014, accommodates girls and boys.

More info

Related Entries

Related Organisations

- [Hobart Girls' Training School \(1881 - 1905\)](#)
- [Boys' Training School \(1884 - 1926\)](#)
- [Neglected Children's Department, Colony of Tasmania \(1896 - 1901\)](#)
- [Neglected Children's Department, State of Tasmania \(1901 - 1918\)](#)

The Secretary of the Neglected Children's Department was the Manager of the Boys' Training School.

- [Ashley Home for Boys \(1926 - 1999\)](#)

Related Legislation

- [The Training Schools Act 1867, Tasmania \(1867 - 1896\)](#)

Resources

- Parry, Naomi, ['Such a longing': black and white children in welfare in New South Wales and Tasmania, 1880-1940](#), 2007

You can view this page online by visiting <https://findconnect.efront.digital/entity/training-school/>