



## **110th-Anzac-Day-Speech-for-High-Schools-Honouring-Sacrifice-and-Legacy-of-Courage**

Ladies and gentlemen, honoured guests, and fellow Australians,

This morning, we gather on [Gadigal] Country, and we acknowledge and pay our respects to their Elders past, present, and emerging.

I also wish to honour the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women who have served in the defence of Australia, as well as all current and former members of the Australian Defence Force. To the families of our Defence personnel, whose quiet sacrifices often go unseen, we extend our deepest gratitude.

Today, on Anzac Day 2025, we mark a remarkable milestone – the 110th anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli.

For over a century, Australians and New Zealanders have come together on this day to remember the courage, sacrifice, and mateship of those who served in times of war and peace. The passage of time has not dimmed the significance of their actions. In fact, each generation finds new meaning in the Anzac Spirit – a spirit that continues to inspire and unite us.

At dawn on 25 April 1915, young soldiers stormed the shores of Gallipoli. They faced harsh conditions, an unfamiliar landscape, and overwhelming odds. Yet, in the face of unimaginable hardship, they stood firm. They looked out for one another. They showed courage, endurance, and resilience.

Though the Gallipoli campaign ended in withdrawal, the legacy of the Anzacs was only just beginning. From the trenches of the Western Front to the jungles of the Pacific, from peacekeeping missions to modern-day conflicts, Australians have continued to serve with honour and distinction.

As we stand here 110 years later, Anzac Day remains not only a time for remembrance but also a time for reflection on how we carry this legacy forward.

The Anzacs taught us that true strength is not just about bravery on the battlefield – it is about standing together, supporting one another, and facing challenges with determination. These lessons are as relevant today as they were in 1915.

You, as young Australians, are the guardians of this legacy. You honour the Anzac Spirit every time you:

- Look after your mates, just as the Anzacs did in the trenches.
- Persevere through challenges, showing the same resilience they displayed in the face of adversity.

- Contribute to your community, helping to build a nation where everyone is valued and supported.

On this 110th anniversary, we honour not just those who fought at Gallipoli, but every Australian who has worn the uniform and served our country.

We also remember the families who waited, who worried, and who carried on despite uncertainty and loss. Their sacrifices are a part of this legacy, too.

As we pause for a moment of silence today, let us not only remember those who have fallen but also commit ourselves to living with the values they stood for – courage, mateship, service, and sacrifice.

Lest we forget.