

Arriving at HMAS platypus with a cold breeze shifting past to the west, splashed past with the sight of the Voyage docked at the wharf. Greeted by the captain and welcomed aboard by the staffies made the youthies feel unshy and aloud to start their boat journey. A special smoking ceremony was conducted by a aboriginal relative and we were infused with the smell of eucalyptus and tea tree leaves. Drifting and departing away from the wharf with a smile travelling past the Harbour Bridge and towards HMAS Penguin. It was a cold night but a way to meet other people that are from different places in Australia. Hitting the high seas and wind bringing the tides higher caused a bumpy start ride up north to Queensland. Raining and Sun beaming days configured the starting days of the Voyage. Planning and outlining goals on which to achieve within the Voyage can help become a guideline to an achievement. Anchoring close to a beach known to be close to a old and historical prison has a reflective afternoon sunset which brings the sight of Kangaroos along the warm and golden sand. Departing away and heading up north with a few rough and windy nights brings joy and laughter to the youthies on board. Photographs and recordings taken of dolphins jumping up high and travelling along the voyage current alongside whales in the distance brings a lot of joy and excitement to the youthies who were up on deck at the time. Watching sunsets that are beautiful, eating together as a watch crew and observing the early morning sunrise creates a sense of happiness for the trip. We all became closer as friends and turned into the Voyage 9 family. A shower of heavy rain came down when the voyage anchored in Noosa Beach. It rained heavy and stopped at one point to bring out the calm sun which brought locals to the beach. A place of memories and captures of the beautiful coast had to be waved goodbye as we headed towards Brisbane through Command day and an exciting last night filled with a night disco, song, ending video and a poem. Being together on a Voyage for 10 days and ending with smiles, memories, photos, good times, good vibes and good moments brought the crew together and we made it to Brisbane and left the Voyage as it stood at HMAS Moreton to know that a reunion would be a time to continue on with the sailing journey even if this one was completed.