



Dear Principals, Literacy Coordinators and Teachers,

The past few years have been unprecedented. Poverty is soaring, affecting more children and young people in times of upheaval. At the same time, more young people than ever want to make a difference and take part in public debates.

That's why we believe that the Pens Against Poverty writing competition is such a valuable activity for students for further developing their empathy, understanding and expression. Pens Against Poverty is a unique writing competition first established in Canberra. It is now a national competition supported by a coalition of charities and led by Anglicare Australia. This year, students from years 3-10 are invited to write short stories and poems on the theme, Voices for Change.

The Pens Against Poverty competition gives children and young people the opportunity to use their voice and creative writing skills to heighten their awareness and understanding of poverty and social issues, allowing them to develop their creative skills to make a difference now and in the future.

The competition is free, and the closing date is Friday 15 September 2023, with the winners announced during Anti-Poverty Week. Winning writers will be published online and have a chance to win some amazing prizes donated from our key sponsor, Hesta Super Fund.

All the information is at our website www.pensagainstpoverty.org, where entries can be uploaded directly. If you have any questions about the competition, please don't hesitate to contact me directly on 0434 200 794 or Maiy.Azize@anglicare.asn.au.

Yours faithfully,

Maiy Azize
Deputy Director
Anglicare Australia

PENS *Against* **POVERTY**