

CIVICS & CITIZENSHIP

WHY STUDY CIVICS & CITIZENSHIP?

Civics and Citizenship is essential in enabling students to become active and informed citizens who participate in and sustain Australia's democracy. Through the study of Civics and Citizenship, students investigate political and legal systems, and explore the nature of citizenship, diversity and identity in contemporary society.

Civics and Citizenship provides opportunities to develop students' knowledge and understanding of Australia's representative democracy and the key institutions, processes, and roles people play in Australia's political and legal systems. Emphasis is placed on Australia's federal system of government, derived from the Westminster system, and the liberal democratic values that underpin it such as freedom, equality and the rule of law.



COURSE AIMS: 8CIVI

The study of Civics & Citizenship ensures that students:

- ask questions about the society in which they live. Students identify, locate and research a range of sources of information to investigate Australia's political and legal systems.
- apply critical thinking skills and developing and accounting for different points of view
- work collaboratively, negotiating and developing strategies to resolve issues, and planning for action
- present ideas, viewpoints and arguments based on evidence about civics and citizenship topics and issues using subject-specific language, and reflect on their cultural identity, motivations, values and behaviours.



COURSE ORGANISATION:

Students will study:

- the freedoms that enable active participation in Australia's democracy within the bounds of law, including freedom of speech, association, assembly, religion and movement
- how citizens can participate in Australia's democracy, including use of the electoral system, contact with their elected representatives, use of lobby groups, and direct action
- how laws are made in Australia through parliaments (statutory law) and through the Courts
- the types of law in Australia, including criminal law and civil law, and the place of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander customary law
- Judeo-Christian traditions of Australian society and religions practised in contemporary Australia
- different perspectives about Australia's national identity, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives, and what it means to be Australian
- how national identity can shape a sense of belonging in Australia's multicultural society

Assessment

A variety of assessment techniques may be used:

- short and/or extended written responses
- research assignments
- multi-modal presentations