



Highfields State  
Secondary College

## Semester 2 Course Overview

**Faculty:** Humanities  
**Subject:** Civics & Citizenship  
**Year level:** 7

### Course Outline

The Year 7 curriculum provides a study of the key features of Australia's system of government and explores how this system aims to protect all Australians. Students examine the Australian Constitution and how its features, principles and values shape Australia's democracy. They look at how the rights of individuals are protected through the justice system. Students also explore how Australia's secular system of government supports a diverse society with shared values.

The civics and citizenship content at this year level involves two strands: Civics and Citizenship Knowledge and Understanding, and Civics and Citizenship Skills. These strands are interrelated and should be taught in an integrated way; they may be integrated across learning areas and in ways that are appropriate to specific local contexts. The order and detail in which they are taught are programming decisions.

### Key questions

A framework for developing students' civics and citizenship knowledge, understanding and skills at this year level is provided by the following **key questions**:

- How is Australia's system of democratic government shaped by the Constitution?
- What principles of justice help to protect the individual's rights to justice in Australia's system of law?
- How is Australia a diverse society and what factors contribute to a cohesive society?

Students will participate in Civics for the length of one Term.

Semester 2	
<b>Unit 1: Exploring how Australia's legal and political systems protect its citizens</b>	
Students develop civic knowledge and understanding, and apply citizenship skills to investigate political and legal systems, and the nature of citizenship, diversity and identity in contemporary society. They explore ways they can actively shape their lives, value their belonging in a diverse and dynamic society, and contribute locally, nationally, regionally and globally.	
In this unit, students study key features of Australia's system of government and explore how this system aims to protect all Australians. They examine the Australian Constitution and how its features, principles and values shape Australia's democracy. Students look at how the rights of individuals are protected through the justice system. They explore how Australia's secular system of government supports a diverse society with shared values.	
Through the study of civics and citizenship, students can develop skills of inquiry, values and dispositions that enable them to be active and informed citizens.	
Assessment One	Assessment Two
<b>Supervised Short Response Exam</b> Students will be required to demonstrate an understanding of the concept of government and how it is influenced by Australia's constitution and the key features of Australia's representative democracy.	<b>Supervised Stimulus Response Exam</b> Students will show active and informed citizenship by demonstrating their understanding of the principles of justice through a legal case study. Students will also present a forward thinking plan to make changes to legislation.