

# SUPPORT DOCUMENT FOR ENTRIES IN THE 2021 GOVERNOR'S CIVICS AWARDS FOR SCHOOLS

This document has been developed to support students and teachers submitting entries for the 2021 Governor's Civics Awards for Schools. The document includes year level checklists for the *Individual category* of the awards and submission templates to be completed and submitted for the *SACE years, Group and School categories* of the awards.

The Individual category checklist does not have to be submitted with the entry. The checklists are to provide guidance to teachers and students in regards to the key terms, the question, entry requirements and judging criteria for the Year 5-10 Individual categories. However, the relevant submission template needs to be used for entries for the SACE years, Group and School categories.



## GOVERNOR'S CIVICS AWARDS FOR SCHOOLS

**2021**

**Open to all South Australian students  
with a focus on South Australian  
History and Civics and Citizenship  
Education from Years 5-12.**

**Closes on Friday 17 September 2021.**

# Year 5 Individual entry checklist

“Why is it important for young people to know about the establishment and development of the South Australian colony in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century?”

## ○ The question

- Does your entry clearly address the *why it is important for young people* aspect of the question?
- Have you addressed aspects of the early settlement by Europeans and subsequent development of South Australia in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century?
- Have you focussed on the years 1836-1899?
- Is your essay about the South Australian colony only?
- Your response does not have to be about topic coverage on South Australian history during these years but rather focus on young people knowing an aspect of the establishment and/or subsequent development of South Australia in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.
- It is acceptable for your entry to focus on young people knowing a local history study i.e. a country region during those years.

## ○ Key terms

- The *19<sup>th</sup> Century* is from the years 1800-1899.
- The establishment of the colony relates to the impact of Europeans settling in the area of South Australia in the 1830's.
- The development of the South Australian colony relates to the years after the establishment of the colony i.e. 1840-1899.
- The South Australian colony or province relates to the area settled by the British in 1836. According to The Letters Patent the area to be known as South Australia was:  
*On the North the twenty sixth Degree of South Latitude — On the South the Southern Ocean — On the West the one hundred and thirty second Degree of East Longitude — And on the East the one hundred and forty first Degree of East Longitude including therein all and every the Bays and Gulfs thereof together with the Island called Kangaroo Island and all and every the Islands adjacent to the said last mentioned Island or to that part of the main Land of the said Province.*
- Multimodal refers to a presentation of a visual and audio nature, i.e., video and PowerPoint.

## ○ Entry requirements

- Is the response a maximum of 500 words if written and 2-3 minutes if multimodal?
- Have a maximum of 4 entries from a year level been submitted for the school? (teacher information).
- Does the multimodal response have attractive and relevant visuals, a voice over and a minimum of writing on each slide?

## ○ Judging criteria

Have you:

- used a range of data and information from a variety of sources?
- used terms relevant to the topic?
- written the essay to be grammatically correct, clear and concise?
- made an attempt to be original in your thinking? To think a little differently than others on the topic.
- read your essay to someone to see if they find it an interesting (engaging) piece of writing?
- made sure that you have answered the question and really thought deeply about the question? Not just a piece of descriptive writing.

# Year 6 Individual entry checklist

"Is there an individual or group from the 20th century that made a significant contribution to the development of South Australian democracy and society?"

## ○ The question

- Have you focussed on either an individual or group?
- Have you addressed the concept of *significance* when discussing your individual or group? That is, why was their contribution significant and in what ways did they impact on democracy and society?
- Have you focussed on the years 1900-1999?
- Is your essay about the South Australian colony only?
- Have you made it clear how they impacted on the democratic society in South Australia in the 20th Century? In fact, what was their actual contribution to the development of South Australian society as a functioning democracy?
- The contribution does not have to relate to government, parliament or politics but can be about an individual or group who contributed to our society as an active citizen in our democracy and as a result made a contribution to the nature and development of South Australian society.

## ○ Key terms

- The 20th Century is from the years 1900-1999.
- Significance is a concept relating to the contribution and importance of an event, person or group in society.
- Democracy is the involvement of individuals in the governance and functions of a group of people living as a community. Such a community of people is referred to as a society and in that context. Democracy relates to voting rights and the freedom of individuals to be involved in and contribute to society as an active citizen.
- Multimodal refers to a presentation of a visual and audio nature, i.e., video and PowerPoint.

## ○ Entry requirements

- Is the response a maximum of 600 words if written and 2-3 minutes if multimodal?
- Have a maximum of 4 entries from a year level been submitted for the school? (teacher information).
- Does the multimodal response have attractive and relevant visuals, a voice over and a minimum of writing on each slide?

## ○ Judging criteria

Have you:

- used a range of data and information from a variety of sources?
- used terms relevant to the topic?
- written the essay to be grammatically correct, clear and concise?
- made an attempt to be original in your thinking? To think a little differently than others on the topic?
- read your essay to someone to see if they find it an interesting (engaging) piece of writing?
- clearly addressed the concept of democracy and society?
- made sure that you have answered the question and really thought deeply about the question? Not just a piece of descriptive writing.

# Year 7 Individual entry checklist

## “Why is an understanding of diversity in Australian society important to our future?”

### ○ The question

- Have you identified what you consider the term diversity relates to in our society? Is it just about culture or does it involve other societal aspects i.e. differences across society?
- Have you clearly addressed the *why an understanding of diversity is important* aspect of the question? The question asks you to talk about the reasons why an understanding of diversity is important.
- Have you addressed the concepts of diversity and social cohesion?
- Does your essay provide examples and/or case studies of how the understanding of diversity contributes to a socially cohesive society?

### ○ Key terms

- Diversity is a concept relating to the different cultures, races, individual qualities and preferences that make up our society.
- The concept of social cohesion relates to the idea that such differences in our society should not result in division and exclusions of particular groups or individual.
- The premise of the question is that the idea of a united and cohesive society stems from an understanding of diversity.
- Democracy is the involvement of individuals in the governance and functions of a group of people living as a community. Such a community of people is referred to as a society and in that context, democracy relates to their voting rights and freedom to be involved in and contribute to society in a variety of ways.
- Multimodal refers to a presentation of a visual and audio nature, i.e., video and PowerPoint.

### ○ Entry requirements

- Is the response a maximum of 800 words if written and 2-3 minutes if multimodal?
- Have a maximum of 4 entries from a year level been submitted for the school? (teacher information).
- Does the multimodal response have attractive and relevant visuals, a voice over and a minimum of writing on each slide?

### ○ Judging criteria

Have you:

- used a range of data and information from a variety of sources?
- used terms relevant to the topic?
- written the essay to be grammatically correct, clear and concise?
- made an attempt to be original in your thinking? To think a little differently than others on the topic?
- read your essay to someone to see if they find it an interesting (engaging) piece of writing?
- clearly addressed the concept of diversity and social cohesion?
- examined in some way the values and perspectives of individuals and/or group on the question of diversity and social cohesion?
- made sure that you have answered the question and really thought deeply about the question? Not just a piece of descriptive writing.

# Year 8-9 Individual entry checklist

A piece of work that endeavours to persuade young people why it is important to engage with Australia's democratic and/or multicultural society.

## ○ The question

- Have you clearly identified why young people should be involved in being an active citizen in our society?
- Have you actively focussed on *persuading* the reader and not just telling them why they should engage with our democratic and/or multicultural society?
- Does your essay provide examples and/or case studies of what happens/has happened as a result of engagement of young people in our society?

## ○ Key terms

- Persuade relates to trying to convince the audience about why something is important.
- For the purpose of this essay, young people are considered those under 21 years of age.
- Citizenship engagement is about an individual being interested, involved and active in some way in political and social activities. In this case, to be informed and active in our democratic processes and/or multicultural aspects of our society.
- A multicultural society is a community containing several cultural or ethnic groups, with the ability to maintain their culture within the mainstream society.
- Australia's democratic society relates to the ability of individuals to participate in the freedoms, voting rights and responsibilities inherent in a society such as Australia. This is a society based on involving the community in the governance of the society via freedom of speech, representation, advocacy and freedom of association.
- Multimodal refers to a presentation of a visual and audio nature, i.e., video and PowerPoint.

## ○ Entry requirements

- Is the response a maximum of 900 words if written and 2-3 minutes if multimodal?
- Is the written response in the form of a speech?
- Does the multimodal response have attractive and relevant visuals, a voice over and a minimum of writing on each slide?
- Have a maximum of 4 entries from a year level been submitted for the school? (teacher information).

## ○ Judging criteria

Have you:

- critically used a range of data and information from a variety of sources?
- made an attempt to be original in your thinking? To think a little differently than others on the topic?
- read your essay to someone to see if they find it an interesting (engaging) piece of writing?
- Examined in some way the values and perspectives of individuals and/or groups on the question and made recommendations for the future?
- made sure that you have answered the question and really thought deeply about the question?

# Year 10 Individual entry checklist

A piece of work that draws attention to a challenge and suggests ways for individuals to take some form of action in response. The challenge could relate to issues of environmental sustainability, urban planning, human rights, globalisation, human well-being etc.

## ○ The question

- Have you clearly identified what the challenge is?
- Have you suggested ways that individuals could take action on the challenge?
- Does your essay provide examples and/or case studies that help explain the challenge and/or support the recommended actions to be taken?

## ○ Key terms

- A challenge is an issue facing society. The range of challenges is broad and some areas suggested are environmental sustainability, urban planning, human rights, globalisation and human well-being. Other areas can be identified as societal challenges beyond this list.
- Action relates to an activity or approach that could be undertaken in response to the challenge.

## ○ Entry requirements

- Is the response a maximum of 900 words if written and 2-3 minutes if multimodal?
- Is the written response in the form of a speech?
- Does the multimodal response have attractive and relevant visuals, a voice over and a minimum of writing on each slide?
- Have a maximum of 4 entries from a year level been submitted for the school? (teacher information).

## ○ Judging criteria

Have you:

- critically used a range of data and information from a variety of sources?
- made an attempt to be original in your thinking? To think a little differently than others on the topic?
- read your essay to someone to see if they find it an interesting (engaging) piece of writing?
- examined in some way the values and perspectives of individuals and/or groups on the question and made recommendations for the future?
- made sure that you have answered the question and really thought deeply about the question?

# SACE Years submission

A submitted piece of work that relates to any of the following focus points:

- a community based action to advocate for an issue and/or improve the environment, social setting or economic situation for a group or location;
- ways to increase student participation in civics and citizenship learning during their school years. This could be with or without a subject specific focus.
- a response that addresses a social, economic, political or environmental challenge/issue that provides civics-based solutions and recommendations for the future.

Please complete this template and submit with your entry and make sure that your submission:

- is a written piece (1500 word max) or in oral or multi-modal form (6 minute max);
- has addressed the judging criteria re: research depth, originality, engagement value, conciseness, quality of expression and presentation requirements (see brochure).

<b>School</b>	
<b>Name of student</b>	
<b>Supporting teacher/s</b>	
<b>Focus of submission: which of the three focus points above does the entry best relate to?</b>	
<b>What is the question or task requirement that the entry is responding to?</b>  <b>What is the subject assignment task that is the basis of the submission to the awards? Please include the task sheet if relevant.</b>	
<b>Key learnings/observations from the assignment in relation to the focus point identified.</b>	
<b>What recommendations or actions were undertaken whilst developing, or as a result of the assignment (if relevant).</b>	

## Group category submission template

School group exhibiting outstanding citizenship skills and actions, with a focus upon actions undertaken by the group to support socially cohesiveness and/or understanding of diversity.

Please complete this template and submit with your entry.

School	
Name of group <i>(if relevant)</i>	
Names of key students involved	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.
Supporting teacher/s	
Number of students involved in some way in the activity of the group	
Focus of group activity	
Period the group was active	
Process undertaken by the group in undertaking the group activity	
Action undertaken by the group to make a difference in their school and/or community	
How did the group impact on their school and/or local community? Describe the indicators of success of the group activity. Please attach testimonials, data and other indicators of success to this template, providing evidence of the impact and effectiveness of the group activity.	Items attached are:

# School category submission template

Secondary schools to provide evidence of their civics education program that aims to develop students as informed and active citizens in their school and broader community.

Please complete this template and submit with your entry.

<b>School</b>	
<b>Name of program</b>	
<b>Name of key teachers involved</b>	1. 2. 3.
<b>Number of students involved in the program</b>	
<b>Program goals</b>	
<b>How long has the program been operating in the school?</b>	
<b>Description of the program across the school i.e. year level focus and activities</b>	
<b>Action undertaken by the students in the school as a result or as part of the program</b>	
<b>How has the program impacted on the school and/or local community? Describe the indicators of success for the school civics education program.</b>	
<b>Please attach testimonials, data and other indicators of success to this template, providing evidence of the impact and effectiveness of the school C&amp;C program.</b>	<b>Items attached are:</b>