

Years 9–10 band plan — Australian Curriculum: Civics and Citizenship

Implementation year: 2017

School name: Ignatius Park College

This band plan has been developed in consultation with the Curriculum into the Classroom project team.

Identify curriculum	Humanities and social sciences learning area	<p>Humanities and social sciences is the study of human behaviour and interaction in social, cultural, environmental, economic, and political contexts. Humanities and social sciences have a historical and contemporary focus, from personal to global contexts, and consider challenges for the future.</p> <p>In the Australian Curriculum, the humanities and social sciences learning area comprises four subjects: history, geography, economics and business, and civics and citizenship. Each subject has been conceptualised in ways appropriate for that subject area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • history focuses on evidence, change and continuity, cause and effect, significance, empathy, perspectives, and contestability • geography focuses on place, space, environment, interconnection, sustainability, scale, and change • civics and citizenship focuses on government and democracy, law and citizens, and citizenship, diversity and identity • economics and business focuses on resource allocation and making choices, the business environment, consumer and financial literacy, work and work futures. <p>Through studying humanities and social sciences, students will develop the ability to question, think critically, solve problems, communicate effectively, make decisions and adapt to change. Thinking about and responding to issues requires an understanding of the key historical, geographical, political, economic, and societal factors involved, and how these different factors interrelate.</p> <p>The humanities and social science subjects provide a broad understanding of the world in which we live, and how people can participate as active and informed citizens with high-level skills needed for the 21st century.</p>
	Phase curriculum focus	<p>During these years of schooling, students typically develop a broader awareness of and concern with civics and citizenship issues. Students are developing their capacities to think, act and engage with more abstract concepts, follow more complex explanations, and challenge and debate ideas. Students develop increasing independence in critical thinking and skill application. They further develop their awareness of global, regional, national and community issues and have a broader awareness of individual and group civic identity, the rights and responsibilities of being a citizen, and how citizens can influence governments.</p> <p>In Years 9 and 10 students develop their understanding of how Australia's democracy operates and enables change, the key features and role of the court system and a critical perspective on the influence of the media, including social media, within society. Students develop an understanding of Australia's roles and responsibilities at a global level and its international legal obligations. Students learn about the values and practices that enable a resilient democracy to be sustained.</p>
	Year-level descriptions	<p>Year 9</p> <p>The Year 9 curriculum builds students' understanding of Australia's political system and how it enables change. Students examine the ways political parties, interest groups, media and individuals influence government and decision making processes. They investigate the features and principles of Australia's court system, including its role in applying and interpreting Australian law. Students also examine global connectedness and how this is shaping contemporary Australian society.</p> <p>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 have been developed to be taught in an integrated way, and in ways that are appropriate to specific local contexts. The order and detail in which they are taught are programming decisions.</p> <p>Key inquiry questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What influences shape the operation of Australia's political system? • How does Australia's court system work in support of a democratic and just society? • How do citizens participate in an interconnected world? <p>Year 10</p> <p>The Year 10 curriculum develops student understanding of Australia's system of government through comparison with another system of government in the Asian region. Students examine Australia's roles and responsibilities within the international context, such as its involvement with the United Nations. Students also study the purpose and work of the High Court. They investigate the values and practices that enable a democratic society to be sustained.</p> <p>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 have been developed to be taught in an integrated way, and in ways that are appropriate to specific local contexts. The order and detail in which they are taught are programming decisions.</p> <p>Key inquiry questions</p> <p>A framework for developing students' civics and citizenship knowledge, understanding and skills at this year level is provided by the following key questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How is Australia's democracy defined and shaped by the global context? • How are government policies shaped by Australia's international legal obligations? • What are the features of a resilient democracy?

Identify curriculum	Achievement standard	<p>Year 9</p> <p>By the end of Year 9, students <i>evaluate</i> features of Australia's political system, and <i>identify</i> and <i>analyse</i> the influences on people's political choices. They <i>explain</i> the key principles of Australia's system of justice and <i>analyse</i> the role of Australia's court system. They <i>analyse</i> a range of factors that influence identities and attitudes to diversity. They reflect on how groups participate and contribute to civic life.</p> <p>When researching, students <i>analyse</i> a range of questions to <i>investigate</i> Australia's political and legal systems and <i>critically analyse</i> information gathered from different sources for relevance and reliability. They <i>compare</i> and account for different interpretations and points of view on civics and citizenship issues. When planning for action, students take into account multiple perspectives, use democratic processes, and negotiate solutions to an issue. Students <i>develop</i> and present evidence-based arguments on civics and citizenship issues using appropriate texts, subject-specific language and concepts. They <i>analyse</i> ways they can be active and informed citizens in different contexts.</p> <p>Year 10</p> <p>By the end of Year 10, students <i>compare</i> and <i>evaluate</i> the key features and values of systems of government, and <i>analyse</i> the Australian Government's global roles and responsibilities. They <i>analyse</i> the role of the High Court and <i>explain</i> how Australia's international legal obligations influence law and government policy. Students <i>evaluate</i> a range of factors that sustain democratic societies.</p> <p>When researching, students <i>evaluate</i> a range of questions to <i>investigate</i> Australia's political and legal systems and <i>critically analyse</i> information gathered from different sources for relevance, reliability and omission. They account for and <i>evaluate</i> different interpretations and points of view on civics and citizenship issues. When planning for action, students take account of multiple perspectives and ambiguities, use democratic processes, and negotiate solutions to an issue. Students <i>develop</i> and present evidenced-based arguments incorporating different points of view on civics and citizenship issues. They use appropriate texts, subject-specific language and concepts. They <i>evaluate</i> ways they can be active and informed citizens in different contexts.</p>	
	Course organisation	<p>The Australian Curriculum: Civics and Citizenship is organised in two related strands — civics and citizenship knowledge and understanding, and civics and citizenship skills. The two strands are to be integrated in the development of a teaching and learning program. The knowledge and understanding strand provides the content focus through which particular skills are to be developed. The sequencing and description of the civics and citizenship skills in two-year bands (9–10) may assist in multi-age programming by providing a common skills focus for the teaching and learning of the knowledge and understanding content.</p> <p>The band plan for civics and citizenship is organised to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provide flexibility when making decisions about how the subject will be implemented, based on the local context and needs of students in schools align with the Australian Curriculum: Civics and Citizenship, which is organised in year levels for the achievement standard and for knowledge and understanding content descriptions, and in bands that span two years for skills content descriptions provide a course structure and content that includes a sequence of teaching and learning and identification of opportunities for assessment and feedback, organised in units according to year levels, and developed using the Australian Curriculum: Civics and Citizenship content descriptions and achievement standards. <p>The band plan course organisation allows schools to implement the Australian Curriculum: Civics and Citizenship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> in a term or a semester as an elective stand-alone subject in Years 9 and 10 (which may involve additional school-based content). 	
Teaching and learning	Unit overview	Unit 1 — Examining how Australia's political and legal systems enable change ¹	Unit 2 — Sustaining Australia's democracy ²
	Time allocation	<p>Key questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What influences shape the operation of Australia's democracy? How does Australia's court system work in support of a democratic and just society? How does citizen participation in a global and interconnected world influence notions of citizenship, identity and diversity? <p>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.</p> <p>In this unit, students explore how Australia's political system enables change. They examine the ways political parties, interest groups, media and individuals influence government and decision making processes. Students investigate the features and principles of Australia's court system, including its role in applying and interpreting Australian law. They also examine global connectedness and how this is shaping contemporary Australian society.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Key questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How is Australia's democracy defined and shaped by the global context? How are government policies shaped by Australia's international legal obligations? What is a civil society and how can it be maintained? <p>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 nationally, regionally and globally.</p> <p>In this unit, students compare Australia's system of government with another system of government in the Asian region. They examine Australia's roles and responsibilities within the international context, such as its involvement with the United Nations. Students also study the purpose and work of the High Court. They investigate the values and practices that enable a democratic society to be sustained.</p> <p>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.</p>
	General capabilities and cross-curriculum priorities		
	Key		

¹ Unit 1 developed using the Australian Curriculum: Civics and Citizenship Year 7 content descriptions and achievement standard.

² Unit 2 developed using the Australian Curriculum: Civics and Citizenship Year 8 content descriptions and achievement standard.

Develop assessment	Assessment	Students should contribute to an individual assessment folio that provides evidence of their learning and represents their achievements over the year. The folio should include a range and balance of assessments for teachers to make valid judgments about whether the student has met the achievement standard.	
		Year 9 — Examining how Australia’s political and legal systems enable change ³	Year 10 — Sustaining Australia’s democracy ⁴
		<p>Research: Extended response (Written)</p> <p>Description: To show active and informed citizenship by accounting for differing perspectives, examining the use of democratic processes and identifying the lessons that can be learned about reaching a consensus in Australia's democratic system of government.</p> <p>This assessment provides opportunities to gather evidence of student learning in:</p> <p>Civics and Citizenship Knowledge and Understanding</p> <p>Government and democracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The role of political parties and independent representatives in Australia's system of government, including the formation of governments (ACHCK075) How citizens' choices are shaped at election time, including the influence of the media (ACHCK076) <p>Laws and citizens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The key features of Australia's court system, including jurisdictions and how courts apply and interpret the law, resolve disputes and make law through judgments (ACHCK077) The key principles of Australia's justice system, including equality before the law, independent judiciary, and right of appeal (ACHCK078) <p>Citizenship, diversity and identity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The influence of a range of media, including social media, in shaping identities and attitudes to diversity (ACHCK080) How ideas about and experiences of Australian identity are influenced by global connectedness and mobility (ACHCK081) <p>Civics and Citizenship Skills</p> <p>Questioning and research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop, select and evaluate a range of questions to investigate Australia's political and legal systems (ACHCS082) Identify, gather and sort information and ideas from a range of sources and reference as appropriate (ACHCS083) <p>Analysis, synthesis and interpretation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critically evaluate information and ideas from a range of sources in relation to civics and citizenship topics and issues (ACHCS084) Account for different interpretations and points of view (ACHCS085) <p>Problem solving and decision making</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognise and consider multiple perspectives and ambiguities, and use strategies to negotiate and resolve contentious issues (ACHCS086) Use democratic processes to reach consensus on a course of action relating to a civics or citizenship issue and plan for that action (ACHCS087) <p>Communication and reflection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present evidence-based civics and citizenship arguments using subject-specific language (ACHCS088) Reflect on their role as a citizen in Australian, regional and global contexts (ACHCS089) 	<p>Collection of work: Extended response (written)</p> <p>Purpose: To show active and informed citizenship by comparing and evaluating the key features and values of the systems of government of Australia and Indonesia, and to use evidence to show that despite differing perspectives, the democratic processes in Australia's system of governance have enabled it to sustain a resilient democracy adapting to its international legal obligations.</p> <p>This assessment provides opportunities to gather evidence of student learning in:</p> <p>Civics and Citizenship Knowledge and Understanding</p> <p>Government and democracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The key features and values of Australia's system of government compared with ONE other system of government in the Asia region (ACHCK090) Australia's roles and responsibilities at a global level, for example, provision of foreign aid, peacekeeping, participation in international organisations and the United Nations (ACHCK091) <p>Laws and citizens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The role of the High Court, including in interpreting the Constitution (ACHCK092) How Australia's international legal obligations shape Australian law and government policies, including in relation to Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples (ACHCK093) <p>Citizenship, diversity and identity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The challenges to and ways of sustaining a resilient democracy and cohesive society (ACHCK094) <p>Civics and Citizenship Skills</p> <p>Questioning and research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop, select and evaluate a range of questions to investigate Australia's political and legal systems (ACHCS095) Identify, gather and sort information and ideas from a range of sources and reference as appropriate (ACHCS096) <p>Analysis, synthesis and interpretation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critically evaluate information and ideas from a range of sources in relation to civics and citizenship topics and issues (ACHCS097) Account for different interpretations and points of view (ACHCS098) <p>Problem solving and decision making</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognise and consider multiple perspectives and ambiguities, and use strategies to negotiate and resolve contentious issues (ACHCS099) Use democratic processes to reach consensus on a course of action relating to a civics or citizenship issue and plan for that action (ACHCS100) <p>Communication and reflection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present evidence-based civics and citizenship arguments using subject-specific language (ACHCS101) Reflect on their role as a citizen in Australian, regional and global contexts (ACHCS102)
Making judgments and feedback	Consistency of teacher judgments	Identify opportunities to moderate samples of student work at a school or cluster level to reach consensus and ensure consistency.	

³ Unit 1 developed using the Australian Curriculum: Civics and Citizenship Year 7 content descriptions and achievement standard.

⁴ Unit 2 developed using the Australian Curriculum: Civics and Citizenship Year 8 content descriptions and achievement standard.

Content descriptions for Years 9–10 Civics and Citizenship

Concepts ⁵	Knowledge and understanding	Year 9	Year 10	Civics and citizenship skills	Year 9	Year 10
Government and democracy Involves a study of Australian democracy and the key institutions, processes and roles people play in Australia's system of government	The role of political parties and independent representatives in Australia's system of government, including the formation of governments (ACHCK075) [Year 9]	✓		Questioning and research		
	How citizens' choices are shaped at election time, including the influence of the media (ACHCK076) [Year 9]	✓		Develop, select and evaluate a range of questions to investigate Australia's political and legal systems (ACHCS095)	✓	✓
	The key features and values of Australia's system of government compared with ONE other system of government in the Asia region (ACHCK090) [Year 10]		✓	Identify, gather and sort information and ideas from a range of sources and reference as appropriate (ACHCS096)	✓	✓
	Australia's roles and responsibilities at a global level, for example, provision of foreign aid, peacekeeping, participation in international organisations and the United Nations (ACHCK091) [Year 10]		✓	Analysis, synthesis and interpretation		
Laws and citizens Examines Australia's legal system, the creation of laws and the rights and legal obligations of Australian citizens	The key features of Australia's court system, including jurisdictions and how courts apply and interpret the law, resolve disputes, and make law through judgments (ACHCK077) [Year 9]	✓		Critically evaluate information and ideas from a range of sources in relation to civics and citizenship topics and issues (ACHCS097)	✓	✓
	The key principles of Australia's justice system, including equality before the law, independent judiciary, and right of appeal (ACHCK078) [Year 9]	✓		Account for different interpretations and points of view (ACHCS098)	✓	✓
	The role of the High Court, including in interpreting the Constitution (ACHCK092) [Year 10]		✓	Problem solving and decision making		
	How Australia's international legal obligations shape Australian law and government policies, including in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples (ACHCK093) [Year 10]		✓	Recognise and consider multiple perspectives and ambiguities, and use strategies to negotiate and resolve contentious issues (ACHCS099)	✓	✓
Citizenship, diversity and identity Explores citizenship, Judeo-Christian traditions, the diversity of Australia as a multicultural and multi-faith society, and what shapes identity	How and why groups, including religious groups, participate in civic life (ACHCK079) [Year 9]	✓		Use democratic processes to reach consensus on a course of action relating to a civics or citizenship issue and plan for that action (ACHCS100)	✓	✓
	The influence of a range of media, including social media, in shaping identities and attitudes to diversity (ACHCK080) [Year 9]	✓		Communication and reflection		
				Present evidence-based civics and citizenship arguments using subject-specific language (ACHCS101)	✓	✓
				Reflect on their role as a citizen in Australian, regional and global contexts (ACHCS102)	✓	✓
				Present evidence-based civics and citizenship arguments using subject-specific language (ACHCS101)	✓	✓

⁵ The concepts for civics and citizenship understanding are derived from the content descriptions and achievement standards, and are supported by civics and citizenship skills. The year-level description provides information about the development of concepts for civics and citizenship understanding. The definitions of these concepts are based on descriptions in the Australian Curriculum: Civics and Citizenship (May 2014), www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/humanitiesandsocialsciences/civicsandcitizenship/Curriculum/F-10