

# YEAR 9 A CURRENT AFFAIR

A Current Affair aims to provide students freedom and space to explore an issue of their own choosing in detail. This inquiry-based subject focuses on teaching and nurturing skills in research and inquiry whilst providing choice to students with regards to content. Students will be introduced to a range of social, cultural, political and environmental issues that are currently making the news. Students will develop their critical thinking and independent research skills by selecting an issue of their choice to investigate in depth. Students will develop an exploration of the social/historical context of the issue as well as examine different perspectives on the issue. Students will also learn how to evaluate the proposed solutions/responses to their issue. Possible issues for investigation include gender inequality, the climate crisis, the rise of religious fundamentalism, terrorism, Australia's border protection policy, and domestic violence. This subject draws from concepts and skills from both Civics and Citizenship and History elements of the curriculum.

## **Historical Concepts & Skills**

Students will learn to:

- Analyse and corroborate sources and evaluate their accuracy, usefulness and reliability.
- Analyse the different perspectives of people and evaluate how these perspectives are influenced by significant events, ideas, location, beliefs and values.
- Evaluate different historical interpretations and contested debates.
- Analyse the long-term causes, short-term triggers and the intended and unintended effects of significant events and developments.

## **Civics & Citizenship**

Students will learn to:

- Explain how Australia's international legal obligations shape Australian law and government policies, including in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- Analyse contemporary examples and issues relating to Australian democracy and global connections, including key aspects of citizenship in a pluralist society.
- Discuss challenges to and ways of sustaining a resilient democracy and cohesive society.
- Examine the influence of a range of media, including social media, in shaping identities and attitudes to diversity and how ideas about Australian identity may be influenced by global events.