

Hon Susan Close MP

Minister for Education and Child Development

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Students' success celebrated at 30th Merit Ceremony

The outstanding academic achievements of South Australia's brightest Year 12 students are today being recognised at the 30th SACE Merit Ceremony.

The event at Government House will see 920 South Australian students awarded 1196 subject merits for outstanding achievement in 2017 Stage 2 subjects.

Subject merits are awarded to students who gain an overall subject grade of A+ and demonstrate exceptional achievement in that subject.

As part of the Merit Ceremony, His Excellency the Hon. Hieu Van Le AC, the Governor of South Australia, will present the following awards:

- Governor of South Australia Commendation for outstanding overall achievement in the SACE (27 recipients in 2017)
- Governor of South Australia Commendation — Aboriginal Student SACE Excellence Award for the Aboriginal student with the highest overall achievement in the SACE
- Governor of South Australia Commendation – Excellence in Modified SACE Award for the student with an identified intellectual disability who demonstrates outstanding achievement exclusively through SACE modified subjects.

Education Minister Susan Close will also present the Tennyson Medal to Emily Schultz, who achieved the highest grade in English Literary Studies in 2017.

Quotes attributable to Education and Child Development Minister Susan Close

For the last 30 years at the Merit Ceremony, we have celebrated the outstanding academic achievements and perseverance of thousands of South Australian students.

Today's ceremony is a fitting occasion for families and friends to come together and celebrate their success and the success of the class of 2017, who achieved record-breaking results.

It is also a chance to recognise the support students received from parents, families, friends, and their teachers.

Quotes attributable to CE of the SACE Board Professor Martin Westwell

I congratulate each of these students for demonstrating their commitment to learning and their resilience by completing the SACE.

The SACE is a valuable qualification for life and internationally recognised, where students get the chance to develop the skills they need to be successful in the 21st century.

Quotes attributable to 2017 Tennyson Medal recipient Emily Schultz

I thoroughly enjoyed English Literary Studies because it allowed me to expand my writing abilities and skills in both creating and analysing texts to a more sophisticated level.

The competitive yet encouraging atmosphere of my English Literary Studies class, my fellow students and the teaching, helped to inspire me to push myself to achieve the results I could be proud of.