

Hon Jay Weatherill MP

Premier

Hon Susan Close MP

Minister for Education and Child Development

Tuesday, 7 February 2017

A record year for the SACE Merit Ceremony

Top Year 12 students from across the State will be honoured for their outstanding achievements at the SACE Merit Ceremony at Government House today.

The event will see a record 996 South Australian students awarded 1302 subject merits for outstanding achievement in 2016 Stage 2 subjects.

In the previous year, 1232 subject merits were awarded to 920 South Australian students.

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

This year's Merit Ceremony will mark the greatest number of subject merits ever achieved in the SACE. 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 (twenty-five recipients in 2016)
- Governor of South Australia Commendation — Aboriginal Student SACE 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.

Premier Weatherill will also present the Tennyson Medal to Ashleigh Jones who achieved the highest grade in English Studies in 2016.

Quotes attributable to Premier Jay Weatherill

The Class of 2016 achieved record-breaking results in the SACE, and today's ceremony is an opportunity to publicly recognise the State's top achievers in front of their families and friends. This year's SACE results reflect the support and expertise of teaching staff and the diligence and dedication of students who have been outstanding role models to their peers.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Education Susan Close

The outstanding achievements by these students are cause for us to be proud and confident about the prospects of young South Australians.

I praise the dedication and hard work shown by these outstanding achievers, but also acknowledge the support provided by families, schools and teachers.

This is a great result for these students, their families and the wider community. In completing the SACE, students become self-directed learners, who are globally minded, ethically and culturally aware and effective communicators.

Quotes attributable to 2016 Tennyson Medal recipient Ashleigh Jones

I think that it was a combination of hard work and persistence as well as having teachers who were always so dedicated and supportive of my learning.

Never give up and always put in 110%. Hard work always pays off in the end!