

# Social Story™

2025 Australia Day  
Citizenship Ceremony and  
Citizen of the Year Awards



# What is a social story?

- A social story™ uses storytelling to explain new experiences and environment, helpful for people feeling nervous about attending a new place or event.
- Read the social story before visiting the new place or event.
- If reading to someone, help them understand key points.
- After the visit, re-read the social story to celebrate achievements.



I am going to the Australia Day  
Citizenship Ceremony and Citizen  
of the Year (COTY) Awards on  
Sunday 26 January 2025.

There will be lots of people at the  
event with some loud noises with  
music and people speaking.



This is a special event where people become Australian citizens and awards are given to community members who have done amazing things to help others.



The ceremony will commence at 8:30am at the Southern end of the Eastern Foreshore, by the Kwillena Gabi pool (tidal pool).



The ceremony will take place in a large white marquee. Seats will be available to those who first arrive.

Places will be available for people who use wheelchairs or mobility scooters.



New citizens and COTY nominees are welcome to register their attendance from 7am.

For everyone else there to enjoy the celebration, there is no need to register.



ACROD parking and standard public parking is available throughout the City Centre.

ACROD bays are all within close walking distance to the event found next to Mandurah terrace and in the carpark directly behind.





From 7am there will be indigenous activities like face painting, sand art and painting a community canvas.

I will stay with someone I trust while I enjoy these activities.



There will be music and people celebrating with loud noise.

If the noise feels too much, I can bring my noise reduction earmuffs or earplugs to help me feel more comfortable.



The ceremony will last roughly two hours where once it finishes, the activities will recommence.

I will stay with my trusted adult during the activities.



The Mandurah Lions Club will cook breakfast from 10:30am, free for all New Citizens and COTY nominees.

The public are welcome to purchase, \$4.50 for a sausage/ bun and \$2 for drinks.

There will be strong smells in the area.



The event will finish at 12pm.

After the event, I can choose to visit some local businesses if I want to.



There are toilets near the Mandurah Visitors Centre and on the Eastern Foreshore.

These include general toilets, accessible toilets, and a Changing Places facility with an adult change table, ceiling hoist, shower, and accessible toilet.

I will need my own MLAK key to use the Changing Places facility, as no loan keys are available.

[Click here](#) for more information about Changing Places in Mandurah.



I might have fun and learn new things at the Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony and COTY awards.

It could be an exciting experience for me to enjoy.



## Contact

### City of Mandurah

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The National Relay Service (NRS) assists people who are Deaf or have difficulty hearing or speaking on the phone, offering various call services tailored to different needs and preferences.

For more information visit: [accesshub.gov.au](http://accesshub.gov.au)



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