

# Social Story™

2026 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  
Monday 26 January 2026.

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 7:15am.

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.



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.



From 7:30am there will an  
community art canvas for all to  
paint.

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



The ceremony will last roughly two hours where once it finishes, the afternoon entertainment will commence on stage from 10:30am.

I will stay with my trusted adult during the activities.



Everyone is welcome to bring their picnic rugs to stay and enjoy the family friendly entertainment. The event will finish at 4pm.

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



A variety of food trucks including the annual Mandurah Lions Club breakfast will serve from 10:30am.

There will be strong smells in the area.



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.

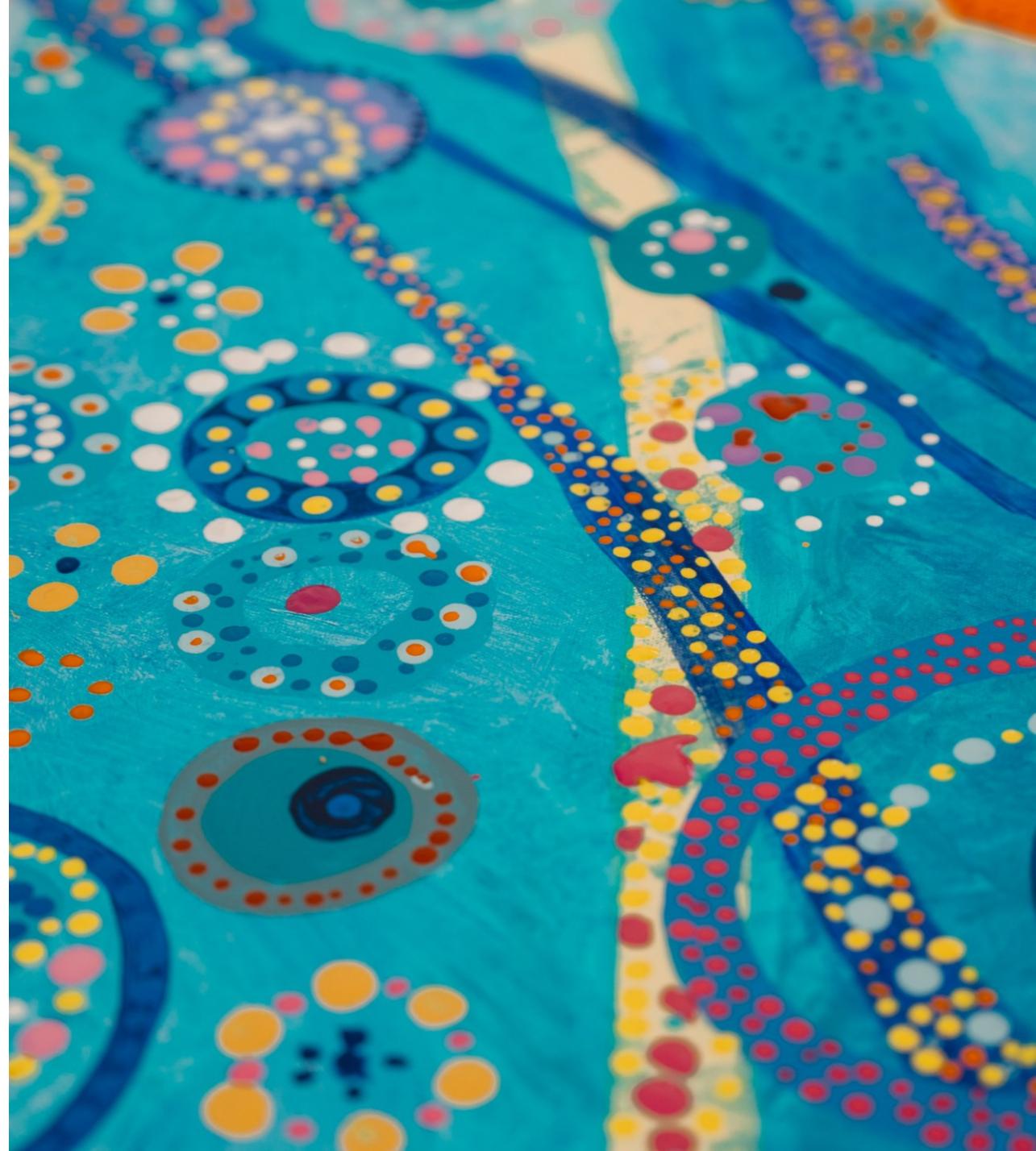
I will need my own MLAK key to use the Changing Places facility, as no loan keys are available.

[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)



Scan code for more information about access and inclusion at the City of Mandurah.

