Citizens of Australia who are 18 years of age or older have the right to become voters.

At election time voters vote for …

Politicians of their choice from a particular political party or an independent candidate. These will become Members of Parliament who will represent voters’ opinions.

This is called a representative parliamentary democracy.

Voters choose 76 people for the Senate (Upper House) and 148 people for the House of Representatives (Lower House), whose leader is the Prime Minister.

The Queen is our head of state.

She is represented by the Governor-General.

The Commonwealth Parliament House is the place where the laws by which we are governed are made.