

Achievement Standard

Subject Reference Social Studies 1.3

Title Demonstrate understanding of decisions made in relation to a contemporary social issue

Level 1 **Credits** 5 **Assessment** External

Subfield Social Science Studies

Domain Social Studies

Status Approved **Status date** 30 September 2025

Planned review date December 2029 **Date version published** 9 December 2025

Purpose Statement

Students are able to demonstrate understanding of decisions made in relation to a contemporary social issue.

Achievement Criteria

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate understanding of decisions made in relation to a contemporary social issue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain decisions made in relation to a contemporary social issue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine decisions made in relation to a contemporary social issue

Explanatory Notes

1 *Demonstrate understanding of decisions made in relation to a contemporary social issue* involves:

- describing decisions made in relation to a contemporary social issue
- describing the intended outcomes of the decisions made in relation to the contemporary social issue
- including relevant evidence in the description.

Explain decisions made in relation to a contemporary social issue involves:

- explaining the rationale of the decisions made with reference to the contemporary social issue
- using evidence to support the explanation.

Examine decisions made in relation to a contemporary social issue involves:

- discussing how the decisions relate to each other, with reference to the rationale and the contemporary social issue
 - using evidence to develop the explanation.
- 2 A *decision* is a potential solution or resolution to an issue. It may be in the form of a plan, a law or policy change, or an agreement reached in relation to an issue.
- 3 A *contemporary social issue* refers to an issue that is currently affecting various people or places. For the purposes of this standard, a contemporary social issue must consider one or a combination of:
- the inclusion of diverse identities
 - the impact on people's rights
 - the responsibilities and roles of social organisations
 - the nature of power.
- 4 Refer to the NCEA [glossary](#) for Māori, Pacific, and further subject-specific terms and concepts.
- 5 This achievement standard is derived from the Social Sciences Learning Area at Level 6 of *The New Zealand Curriculum: Learning Media*, Ministry of Education, 2007.
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Replacement Information

This achievement standard, AS92048, AS92049, and AS92051 replaced AS91039-AS91043.

Quality Assurance

- 1 Schools and institutions must have been granted consent to assess by NZQA before they can register credits from assessment against achievement standards.
- 2 Schools and institutions with consent to assess must engage with the moderation system that applies to those achievement standards.

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference 0233
