What happens on election day?

Finding a place to vote
Local schools, halls and other community venues are used as polling places or voting centres on election day. Large banners outside the venues make them easy to see.

Most polling places are open from **8am until 6pm** on election day, which is always held on a Saturday.

Mobile voting teams visit many remote communities in the weeks before election day.

At election time, you can find out where your nearest polling place will be located at www.aec.gov.au or by contacting the Australian Electoral Commission on **13 23 26**.

Outside the polling place
When you arrive at the polling place, you will most likely see advertisements by political candidates and parties asking you to vote for them.

People may hand you ‘how-to-vote’ cards, which show you how to fill in your ballot papers if you want to support a particular candidate or political party.

It is your **choice** who you vote for. You **do not** have to follow any of these suggestions.

Inside the polling place
When you get inside the polling place you might need to wait in a queue before someone helps you. A polling official will ask for your name, address and if you have voted before in this election. You will then receive your ballot papers. You can fill these out in private in the voting area or ask a family member or friend to help you. Polling officials are also available to help.

Once you’ve voted, just put your ballot papers in the ballot boxes near the door and you will have had a say about your future and the future of your community.