Teacher Resource

# Superannuation

## Focus Questions

Discuss the BTN High story as a class and record the main points of discussion. Students will then respond to the following:

1. What is superannuation?
2. Why do we have super in Australia?
3. What are the advantages of superannuation?
4. What are some disadvantages or restrictions around super?
5. Do you think super is a good idea? Why or why not?
6. Do you think Australians should be able to access their superannuation at any time? Provide reasons.

## Activities

1. **Discuss Super:** In small groups, discuss the advantages and disadvantages of superannuation. Record your points and share them with the class.
2. **Discussion:** Should casual workers aged under 18 should get superannuation? Discuss the pros and cons as a class. Think about how it would impact workers and employers.
3. **Teaching Fellow Students About Super:** Using what you have learned from the BTN High story and research of your own, write a feature article for your school newsletter informing students about what super is.
4. **Calculating Super:** Using the following job samples, calculate how much an employer must contribute to super using the formula:

   ***Weekly earnings x 0.12 = Super Contribution***

| Job | Weekly Earnings | Super Contribution (12%) |
|---|---|---|
| Fast-food | $1080 | |
| Lifeguard | $1470 | |
| Apprentice Mechanic | $800 | |
| Bus driver | $1250 | |

**EPISODE 47**
26th August 2026

**KEY LEARNING**
Students will learn about Australia's superannuation including what it is and why we have it.

**CURRICULUM**
Consumer and financial literacy - Year 7
Consumer and financial literacy - Year 8
Consumer and financial literacy - Year 9
Consumer and financial literacy - Year 10

Examples:
Economics and Business - Year 9 (v9.0)

Economics and Business - Year 10 (v9.0)

5. **Moneysmart Calculator:** Using the Government's Moneysmart website, input the following details to work out approximately how much super you would receive at retirement age:

   a) An initial age of 18, a starting salary of $60,000, a retirement age of 67, and use the default balanced investment options. Take note of the results in blue.

   b) Next, change one of below variables to see how much the amount of super at retirement changes.

   *- Increase the fund 'administration fee' by just 1%.*

   *- Add a voluntary personal contribution of $20 per week.*

   *- Change the investment style option from "Balanced" to "Growth".*