



Term 1 E-newsletter

Welcome to MindSET-do, where we believe that STEM learning should be accessible to everyone. Our mission is to develop student, teacher, parent, and community confidence, knowledge and skills to succeed in STEM and create more diverse and inclusive workplaces in these fields. MindSET-do is a widening participation program developed by the University of the Sunshine Coast (UniSC) to increase participation in tertiary education in STEM fields.

Upcoming Events

Our events brings together all things STEM in a range of exciting and engaging events hosted across Sunshine Coast and beyond. Events include various challenges and immersive experiences to get students (and adults) excited about STEM!

[Fraser Coast SEC](#)

[RoboRave Australia](#)

Latest News & Offerings

Gympie
Science &
Engineering
Challenge

Robotics
Club

Home-School
STEM
Activities

Primary &
Secondary
Lessons



Community Robotics Clubs Gympie & Hervey Bay

We offer low-cost Robotics Clubs to students who do not have access to a robotics or coding clubs at their schools. The program kicks off on Thursday, April 18th, with sessions held at Yarrilee State School in Hervey Bay from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm, and at One Mile State School in Gympie from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm every Thursday.

For just \$165 per person, this is an opportunity not to be missed. Expressions of interest are now open. Don't wait any longer to join us in this thrilling adventure of learning, creating, and competing in the world of robotics!

[REGISTER](#)



FREE Community Code Clubs in 2024

Discover the MindSET-do Community Code Club, an engaging 5-week program that introduces coding to primary school students in years 3 to 6. Students will dive into Scratch and create games and animations while building essential digital literacy and soft skills like logic, creativity, and collaboration. Preparing for the future by empowering young minds to thrive in a changing world through the art of coding.

[MORE INFO](#)

Science & Engineering Challenge days

Gympie recently hosted a Science & Engineering Challenge on Tuesday 5 March. The event garnered enthusiastic support from regional schools, showcasing a remarkable display of innovation and collaboration.

The true stars of the show were undoubtedly the students! Their collaborative efforts, critical thinking, and determination stole the spotlight as they fearlessly tackled each challenge presented to them.

A special acknowledgment goes out to our amazing community, with over 19 volunteers lending their support on the day.

The next event scheduled will be on May 17, at the PCYC Pialba, in Hervey Bay.

To book your school contact us mindset-doevents@usc.edu.au

[MORE INFO](#)





Home-School STEM Activities

This term, our home-school workshops were all about hands-on learning in robotics and coding, led by Grace Smith & Dr. Courtney Lewis, both MindSET-do Presenters. We kicked off with Spike robots, where students learned to code and build robots. Next, we explored Micro:bits and Grove extension kits to create and code, diving into programming. Throughout the programs, students were guided through exciting projects, fostering a love for STEM learning.

Looking ahead, if we receive enough interest, Term 2 will feature two four-week programs covering exciting topics. To run these programs, we'll need a minimum of 15 participants:

Biology Unit:

- Students will explore cell biology, genetics, biodiversity, and family trees. Activities include building a cell, DNA extraction, and conducting a BioBlitz on campus to study biodiversity. The term will culminate in building a family tree using DNA and biology knowledge.

Sustainable Engineering:

- Participants will dive into sustainable energy, bridge building challenges, sustainable development, and building a sustainable neighbourhood. Activities include creating a lemon battery, exploring renewable energy, learning about UN sustainability goals, and engaging in a sustainable neighbourhood challenge.

[EOI FORM](#)

Primary and Secondary Programs

Discover our immersive School Programs, designed by teachers for teachers, to ignite curiosity and inspire a passion for STEM in students from Year 4 to Year 10. Our Career and Technical Education (CTE) curriculum equips students with the skills to make informed decisions about STEM subjects, tertiary studies, and future careers.

Through engaging sessions, students develop problem-solving and creative thinking skills, exploring cutting-edge technologies. They apply their knowledge to real-world problems, connecting them with hands-on activities and experiences directly tied to real-world careers.

Aligned with the Australian Curriculum, our programs integrate key areas like Technologies, Science, Mathematics, and Media Arts. We offer hands-on experiences that transform perceptions of STEM careers, providing guidance on tertiary study pathways.

The primary and secondary programs feature face-to-face interactions, maximizing engagement and fostering effective learning experiences.

[MORE INFO](#)





Kimberly Purcell

Meet our Presenters

Kimberly is currently enrolled in the Master of Teaching (Primary) program at UniSC. From Bli Bli, Queensland, where she attended primary school, and later Nambour for high school, Kimberly has always been passionate about learning and teaching.

In her primary school years (4-6), Kimberly was known for her kindness, love for animals, and enthusiasm for activities like netball, music, and dancing. She particularly enjoyed creative writing, art, and the delicious food from Italian lessons. During high school, Kimberly's adventurous spirit led her to explore various subjects, including English, Science, Technologies, Health & PE, and The Arts. She found joy in reading, spending time with friends, and engaging in outdoor activities like bushwalks.

With a background in environmental science and a passion for hands-on learning, Kimberly found her calling as a MindSET-do presenter. She is dedicated to inspiring students through fun activities that foster skills in digital systems, drones, and educational serious games.

As a presenter, Kimberly cherishes the confidence and satisfaction students gain from participating in MindSET-do lessons, where teamwork and problem-solving are key.

Kimberly's advice to students is simple yet profound: "It's more than ok to make mistakes, as this is where the big learnings come from. Be brave and persevere, and you will find you can do it!"

Parent/Carer Workshops

Our engaging in school Parent/Carer workshops are designed to ignite curiosity and explore exciting STEM pathways, and provide a unique opportunity for parents/carers and their children to come together, learn, and discover the boundless possibilities within science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

What We Offer:

Interactive Sessions: Dive into hands-on activities and informational sessions tailored to both parents/carers and students, fostering collaboration and shared learning experiences.

Promoting STEM Pathways: Discover the endless opportunities available within STEM fields and learn how to encourage and support your child's interest in STEM subjects.

Higher Education Pathways: Gain insights into the pathways available for your child post-school, including valuable information about university opportunities and career prospects.

Expert Speakers: Hear from industry professionals, school representatives, and UniSC marketing experts, who will provide invaluable insights into the future of work, STEM education, and higher education pathways.

Primary and Secondary Focus: We offer workshops tailored to both primary and secondary school students, ensuring relevant and age-appropriate content for all participants.

[MORE INFO](#)





STEM Career Resources

Discover an Exciting Suite of Online Resources for Local STEM Careers.

MindSET-do has a comprehensive suite of online resources tailored to connect students with local STEM careers and industry role models. Our collection includes locally produced videos and posters specifically designed for classroom use.

Teachers, empower your students by downloading our sets of posters, crafted to showcase local role models and reinforce key messages about STEM careers. These visually engaging resources are ideal for sparking discussions and inspiring the next generation of STEM enthusiasts.

Our locally made videos and STEM career posters, featuring insightful interviews with academics, educators, and professionals from various STEM industries. Gain valuable insights and perspectives first-hand from those making waves in your community.

Each poster comes equipped with a QR code linking directly to our website, providing additional information about the featured role model in an interview format. Dive deeper into their experiences and accomplishments with just a scan.

[MORE INFO](#)

WeAreInnovators



MindSET-do is a widening participation program developed by the University of the Sunshine Coast (UniSC) to increase participation in tertiary education in STEM fields.

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