

Term 3 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 bring 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!

[How to teach STEM with drones with She Maps](#)

Latest News & Offerings

[Class VR
Training for
presenters](#)

[RoboRave
Highlights](#)

[She Maps
Teacher PD](#)

[Community
Activities](#)



Suitable
for primary &
secondary
teachers

How To Teach STEM with Drones

Professional Development Workshop





Class VR training for presenters

To mark the first day of the term 2 Qld school holidays, Niamh O'Sullivan, Technologies Teacher from Brightwater State School, led an engaging Class VR PD session on our university campus with presenters from MindSET-do.

The workshop showcased the innovative ClassVR headsets, highlighting their safe and secure design for classroom use. With adjustable head straps and an intuitive interface, these headsets offer a comfortable and immersive VR experience for students of all ages, allowing teachers to maintain full control over each device. It was an inspiring day filled with hands-on learning and exploration! Thank you, Niamh, for an incredible session!



UniSC Students Claim Victory in International Robotics Challenge

A team of students from the University of the Sunshine Coast has triumphed in the most difficult programming challenge at the RoboRAVE Australia event, held recently at UniSC Arena. Their autonomous mouse robot, designed to navigate a maze and "take the cheese," outperformed the competition.

Team members Nathan Cavalli, Gavin Behrens, Kirra Marshall, and Amanda Finch spent months building, programming, and testing their robot to achieve this impressive feat.

RoboRave 2024

The RoboRAVE competition at UniSC Arena was an unforgettable event filled with excitement and cutting-edge technology. Thirteen junior teams, one high school team, and one university team went head-to-head, showcasing their engineering prowess as they battled it out with their autonomous robots.

Competitors pushed the boundaries of robotics, demonstrating incredible skill, creativity, and perseverance in tackling complex challenges. The event brought together students, hobbyists, and entrepreneurs from all walks of life to design, build, and program robots capable of solving intricate tasks.

More than just a competition, RoboRAVE Australia highlighted the power of innovation and collaboration. The future of robotics was on full display, inspiring everyone who attended. We can't wait to see what next year's competition will bring!



UniSC student champions (l-r) Amanda Finch, Nathan Cavalli, Kirra Marshall (absent Gavin Behrens)





Exciting Day of Drone Exploration at Moreton Bay Campus

The Moreton Bay campus was buzzing with excitement as MindSET-do had the privilege of meeting over 100 secondary students from the region as part of the Murri Futures program. The event offered a fantastic opportunity to engage these talented young minds with hands-on STEM experiences, specifically focusing on drone technology.

Throughout the day, students participated in interactive drone activities, where they had the chance to fly drones through a challenging obstacle course set up in the campus' impressive basketball facility.

These activities not only sparked curiosity but also highlighted the endless possibilities that STEM fields can offer. It was an inspiring day for all involved, and we can't wait to see where these students' STEM journeys will take them next!



Primary and Secondary Lessons

MindSET-do has been hard at work delivering dynamic STEM workshops to primary and secondary schools, making a significant impact on students, teachers, and communities.

Primary School Workshops: Students have been immersed in hands-on, inquiry-based learning experiences that spark curiosity and foster a love for STEM. These activities align with curriculum standards and instill confidence in students' STEM abilities from an early age.

Secondary School Workshops: Our secondary workshops focus on complex concepts and problem-solving skills. By engaging students in real-world STEM applications, we aim to prepare them for future careers and inspire further education in STEM fields.

Highlighting Our Teams: Our workshops' success is due to our dedicated teams. Their expertise and enthusiasm ensure that every student gains a deeper understanding and appreciation of STEM.

Regional Impact: Delivering workshops across Moreton Bay, Sunshine Coast, Gympie, Fraser Coast and South Burnett we reach diverse students and educators. Tailoring our programs to each region's needs, we ensure a relevant and enriching STEM experience for all participants.

As we look to the future, we are excited to continue making STEM education accessible and engaging for everyone. Thank you for your ongoing support in creating diverse and inclusive workplaces in STEM fields.





Sam Whale

Meet our Presenters

Sam's journey into the world of STEM began early, during his primary school years, where his favourite pastime was tinkering with circuits using his Arduino kit. His natural curiosity for how things worked led him to excel in subjects like Science and ICT, while his creativity flourished through hands-on learning.

During high school, Sam's interest in Science, Technologies, and The Arts continued to grow, and his passion for game development became a driving force. In his free time, he would create and develop games, a hobby that helped him turn his imagination into interactive experiences. This love for designing virtual worlds led him to pursue a degree in game design.

As a MindSET-do presenter, Sam is excited to help young students discover the possibilities within STEM fields. He hopes to inspire students who, like him, are passionate about creating, tinkering, and pushing boundaries.

STEM Day Success at One Mile State School

What an incredible day at One Mile State School's STEM Day! The students' enthusiasm was contagious, with so many thought-provoking questions about technology. A big thank you to our fantastic presenters, Grace and new team member Alex, for sparking curiosity and inspiring the students through hands-on learning with micro

We look forward to seeing where these budding young innovators take their tech skills next!



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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