



Young ICT Explorers  
2020 Virtual Competition  
Information Pack

# General Information Pack for the Young ICT Explorers Virtual Competition

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## Table of Contents

About Young ICT Explorers .....	3
Divisions .....	4
Locations – Australia and New Zealand.....	4
Subject areas.....	4
Sample project topics .....	5
Awards.....	5
Organisational details.....	5
Registration process .....	5
Conditions of Entry .....	6
Submission Guidelines:.....	7
Report Structure.....	8
Judging Criteria.....	9
Competition’s Key Dates.....	10
Virtual State/Territory Judging Events –.....	10
S/E Qld – NT + NQ - NSW – WA – VIC – ACT – TAS – SA - NZ .....	10
Virtual Judging rounds .....	11
National Final .....	12
Contact Details.....	12



## About Young ICT Explorers

Young ICT Explorers is a competition where students in Years 3 – 12/13 can produce a project of their choice that uses Digital Technologies/Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) to solve a real-world problem or one that shares a passion.

Technology is constantly evolving, its considered to be an enabler across our communities all over the world. For instance, computer games can be designed to educate people on a topic and websites are widely used to communicate and inform people all over the world. The mobile phone has evolved from being just a telephone to a multipurpose device with features like global positioning and access to the internet. The Young ICT Explorers competition aims to inspire and encourage students to consider a career in the digital technologies/ICT industry and gain a greater understanding of all the possibilities available.

### As a student

You are eligible to participate in Young ICT Explorers if you are of school age in **Australia or New Zealand** in 2020 and in school years **3 to 12/13**.

Just ask your teacher/parent/guardian to register your school/independent entry project so your team can take part. Please **register your interest by the 24<sup>th</sup> August**.

While you can work by yourself, it is recommended you create a team of up to four students, projects do require a lot of time and it's always fun working with friends! All of your team members must be in the same year division (see 'Divisions' section below). Once you are registered and you have your team set, the rest is up to you. Produce your best project related to ICT and **submit the report by the 4<sup>th</sup> September**.

Remember to check the Young ICT Explorers website past winners' section for more information and ideas on projects you could enter.

### As a Teacher/Parent/Guardian.

You're invited to register groups of **up to four students per project team** to participate in Young ICT Explorers. **The registration deadline is the 24<sup>th</sup> August**. All of the team members must be in the same year division (see 'Divisions' section below). You can enter multiple teams from your school into the competition. All teams must submit **their report by 4<sup>th</sup> September**.

Please don't hesitate to send us an email to: [info@youngictexplorers.net.au](mailto:info@youngictexplorers.net.au) if you have further questions.



## Divisions

Students can compete individually or in project teams of up to four students in the following school year divisions:

<b>Australia</b>
Yr 3 - 4
Yr 5 - 6
Yr 7 - 8
Yr 9 -10
Yr 11 -12/13

## Locations – Australia and New Zealand

Our 2020 Virtual Competition will still hold region specific competitions.

- NSW
- S/E QLD
- VIC
- WA
- ACT
- SA
- TAS
- NT + N/QLD
- NZ

## Subject areas

We have kept the scope of the competition broad to encourage as much creativity as possible through the use technology. We don't want to limit possibilities for projects that are new and unheard of before. We welcome all types of projects providing they have a clear link to Digital Technology/ICT.

To give you some guidance, projects might come under some of the following subject areas:

- Science
- Engineering



- The Environment and Sustainability
- Business
- Design
- Entertainment

Need more ideas? See some of last year's project on our website [www.youngictexplorers.net.au](http://www.youngictexplorers.net.au)

## Sample project topics

Projects in previous competitions have included some of the following topics:

- iPhone/mobile phone applications
- Computer games
- Websites
- Digital media
- Short films and animations
- Robots
- Arduino/Raspberry Pi Maker projects

## Awards

In each school year category (division) prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners. Previous years prizes have been

- 1st prize – \$150 Voucher for each team member\*
- 2nd prize – \$100 Voucher for each team member\*
- 3rd prize - \$50 Voucher for each team member\*

***\*(prizes are subject to change)***

A trophy will also be awarded in each division to the winning team's school. All accepted entrants will receive a certificate of commendation for their participation.

## Organisational details

### Registration process

We've established a new registration process including the following steps:



1. As a teacher/parent/guardian from **February 2020** you can register your school/independent team entry and an approximate number of teams you may have using **our online registration tool**. Please note the **last day for registration is the 24<sup>th</sup> August**.
2. Once you're registered, you can then nominate the teams, upload their project details and any attachments by the **4<sup>th</sup> September** Submission deadline). Please submit a ZIP file including the following items:
  - Your project reports. (detailed description)  
It is recommended to use the report template or structure outlined on page 7.
  - Release and permission forms.  
You can find these documents on our website in the download section. Please enter the requested details, scan the documents and add the scans to the ZIP file.
  - Add all additional files and details regarding your project to the ZIP file as well.

If you need help to generate a PDF or a ZIP file, please have a look at the download page of the Young ICT Explorers website or contact us for more assistance.

## Conditions of Entry

Entry to the competition is free. To enter the competition, we require students to:

- Be of school age in Australia and New Zealand.
- Enter in the appropriate school year category.
- Ensure Schools (or independent teams) are registered on or before **24<sup>th</sup> August 2020** (registration deadline) on our website <http://www.youngictexplorers.net.au>
- The YICTE team will be contacting registered parties to arrange times for project reviews or confirm video entries.
- Have their teacher/parent/guardian submit their project report, which is clearly linked to Digital Technologies/ICT. Projects without a clearly demonstrable link will be ineligible to enter and these entrants will be notified.
- Submit a report on their project, we recommend [the template](#) on our website or use the structure on page 8, with the report being no more than 15 pages long and not greater than 10 MB in size. Entries with missing reports or reports that exceed these criteria will not be accepted. Please see below for further details.
- Reports must be submitted by **4<sup>th</sup> September**. Submissions will not be accepted after the final date. Early submissions are appreciated for processing purposes.
- If you are submitting a Video for judging review it must be included in your report submission.
- Students must present their own work. Use of materials not produced by the team or individual responsible for the entry which is not duly acknowledged through standard referencing, will be deemed as plagiarism. Any entry deemed guilty of plagiarism will be disqualified and will be ineligible for the judging event and prizes.



- Enter in groups consisting of 1 to 4 students. A team cannot exceed 4 students.
- Submit uncorrupted files. Young ICT Explorers cannot judge or take responsibility for files that are incomplete or corrupted. **Projects must only have material that is suitable for all ages, inappropriate or offensive projects will not be accepted.** The decision of the judges is final.

To be eligible for the major prizes, the participants will be required to enter a video for submission or take part in a Zoom virtual judging round. In the event a project team consists of only one team member and he/she is unable to attend the judging event, a class mate can present on his/her behalf.

## Submission Guidelines:

- Once your team is registered, entries should be uploaded to the competition website before midnight the day the submission deadline ends.
- Each entry must include a written report on the project. We suggest you use the templates available, the report **must not exceed 15 pages** in total.
- Acceptable file types: mp3, mpg, avi, jpg, mov, swf, flv, mp4, html, doc, docx, pdf, ppt, pptx, xls, xlsx, iWork & iLife file formats.
- We accept links to video submissions from reputable streaming services.
- Due to the possibility of viruses, **unacceptable file types are:** exe, bat, com, msi
- If you wish to submit another file type, please contact the Young ICT Explorers Organising Team (contacts for each state on page 10), to ensure that it can be assessed.
- The ZIP file containing the project and report files cannot exceed 10 MB respectively.
- **Projects must only consist of material that is suitable for all ages.**

Students also have the option of submitting a video or screen-cam (in one of the file types specified above).

Students who are unable to upload their actual project will not be penalized during the short-listing process if it is clearly presented in the report. Those invited to the judging reviews will then present their project using their own equipment, i.e. laptops & screens at the event.

The main report must be submitted via a

- Portable Document File (pdf)
- Microsoft Word (doc/docx)

## Report Templates

We have a report template available and can be [found here](#) and in the information section on the website.

Please use these templates as a guide and complete as much as you can, we do understand some projects are still under construction at time of submission. We really want to see an outline of what the project is and what technologies you have used to create it.



## Report Structure

Please note that this is only a recommendation and adherence is not compulsory:

- Title page
  - Your Name/ name of your group members.
  - Name of your project.
  - School name.
  - Event Location
- Abstract
  - What is your project?
  - How did you choose your project?
  - Problems you encountered.
- Introduction
  - What inspired the idea for your project?
- Video Submission/Photos
  - Please enter the link to your video or include any pictures of your project.
- Problem Statement
  - Explain the problem you are trying to solve with your project?
  - Design and Features
  - Challenges Designing and Building this Project.
  - What would you do differently the next time?
- Conclusion
  - Does your project do what you set out to achieve?
- Technologies used
  - List the programs and technologies used.





## Judging Criteria

Each entry will be judged per the following marking criteria:

1. **Creativity and Innovation** – How unique and imaginative is your idea?
  - Is it new and innovative? Analyze the situation, identify a need, propose and develop a solution for the defined need.
  - Develop a brief that identifies simple criteria relating to requirements that make it useful and attractive.
  - Consider labeled drawings, modeling, storyboarding, using digital technologies and multimedia for presentations.
  
2. **Quality and Completeness** – how well does the project do what it is proposed to do?
  - Justify and apply methodical approaches to planning, designing or implementing solutions.
  - Demonstrate competency in a range of practical skills appropriate to the project.
  - Apply and explain an understanding of the nature and function of Digital Technologies/ICT in your project.
  - Are objectives in the project met and functions as a working product?
  
3. **Level of Difficulty** – how difficult is your work?
  - For example, materials, tools, software and equipment used in conducting investigations.
  - Develop and apply a plan and sequence for production taking into account, time, resources and correct techniques.
  - Implementation of a working product.
  
4. **Documentation** – how much effort you have put into your report, posters and your presentation?
  - Investigate questions and predictions by collecting and analyzing data, suggest explanations for findings and reflect on the processes undertaken.
  - Use methods to thoroughly document the development of the project.
  - Use creative thinking techniques including brainstorming, sketching and modelling.

**Projects entered encourage:**

- Communication and information processing skills.
- Ways in which information systems will meet emerging needs.
- Students to select and apply appropriate research and problem-solving skills.
- Ways to apply and explain an understanding of the nature and function of information technologies to the specific practical situation.
- Ways to examine and apply appropriate documentation techniques related to the management of the project.

## Competition's Key Dates

**Launch: February:** Event Locations announcement.

**Registration deadline: 24<sup>th</sup> August-** Please register your school before this date.

**Submission deadline:** Submit project reports and any attachments or video presentations for judging review by the **4<sup>th</sup> September**. (this is the last day you can submit your project reports and video presentations for review.)

**Judging Rounds (by invitation only) 15<sup>th</sup> September – 10<sup>th</sup> November:** The YICTE team will be in touch with all registered schools/organizations/parents and we will book in a time for a Zoom judging review. For those entering Video presentations please include this in your project report submission.

[www.youngictexplorers.net.au](http://www.youngictexplorers.net.au)

Selected projects will be invited to our judging events in the respective states, at our partnering host Universities and locations.

## Virtual State/Territory Judging Events –

**S/E Qld – NT + NQ - NSW – WA – VIC – ACT – TAS – SA - NZ**

This year we are hosting all events virtually, teams have the option of a Zoom call presentation to our judges or by submitting a video presentation for review.

The YICTE team will be in touch with all registered users to book in times for a Virtual review or check teams are submitting video presentations.

Upon close of submissions reports will be reviewed per the conditions of entry and the judging criteria.

Judging rounds will be happening between September 15<sup>th</sup> to November 10<sup>th</sup>



A Virtual Awards Ceremony will be held at the end of all our judging reviews, certificates and prizes will be awarded and sent to the winners.

## Virtual Judging rounds

Projects are being marked on the YICTE Criteria of Creativity and Innovation, Quality and Completeness, Documentation and Project Difficulty.

This year we are offering two formats to take part in YICTE, Schools can opt for a Zoom judging review session, or teams can enter a video presentation of their project presentation.

Each team will have 10 minutes with the Judges panel: 5 minutes for the team to present/pitch their project and then 5 minutes for the judges to ask questions and provide feedback to the team.

### Zoom review

The YICTE team will be in touch with each registered school/organisation to book in times for Zoom reviews before the final submission deadline.

### Video Submissions

We suggest that the team pitch their idea to a teacher/parent to fill in for the judges and they ask any follow up questions. Please provide any project documentation you want the judges to see in the submission.

Here are some example questions judges ask:

- What Technologies did you use?
- What problems occurred during development and how did you resolve them?
- Did you create the project in class time and how long did it take you to create?
- What was the inspiration for your idea?
- Any future plans for this project?

Please make sure the student's video is no longer than 8 minutes. Allowing judges time to look at any documentation.

Please provide any supporting documents and the video submission by 4<sup>th</sup> September.



## National Final

We will be deferring the National Final till early 2021, information will be provided to the territory events winners for attendance at the Finals.

Event TBC for Jan/Feb 2021

## Contact Details

Please direct all further enquiries to the Young ICT Explorers Organising Team.  
[info@youngictexplorers.net.au](mailto:info@youngictexplorers.net.au)

**Young ICT Explorers Program Manager:** Travis Joy [travis.joy@sap.com](mailto:travis.joy@sap.com)

We look forward to your participation in this year's competition!

<http://www.youngictexplorers.net.au>

