# Expression of Interest for the ICT Approved Specialist Program

**Ashdale** Secondary College

**APPLICATIONS TO BE SUBMITTED BY WEDNESDAY, 21 MAY, 4 PM.**

The Department of Education WA Information & Communication Technology (ICT) Approved Specialist program at Ashdale Secondary College gives students access to the latest technology, methods, content delivery and opportunities to explore this exciting, fast paced industry.

The Ashdale ICT Approved Specialist Program offers students the choice of two Institutes to further develop their knowledge and skills;

**1) Creative Technologies** or **2) STEM.**

Both Institutes provide a clear pathway to Senior School studies offering a broad and diverse range of courses available across ATAR and VET.

Our expert teachers undertake staff development programs that encourage inquiry-based teaching and learning strategies. There is a strong emphasis on creative and critical thinking, scientific method and stimulating the natural curiosity and innovation of young minds.

The facilities and equipment at Ashdale Secondary College are world class. Students have access to the latest technology throughout the College including:

- a vibrant Creative Lab including use of 3D printers
- robotics & mechatronics workshop
- e-textiles & maker space workshop
- virtual and augmented reality equipment and software
- iMac labs, TV studio, surface tablets and the latest software.

The ICT Approved Specialist Program requires a three-year commitment (Years 7 to 9) to fully develop the students as self-directed learners. Students must commit to a compulsory one-hour lesson out of normal school hours i.e. before or after school.

## CREATIVE TECHNOLOGIES INSTITUTE

The Creative Technologies Institute delivers an enriched digital technologies curriculum while developing students' skills in various areas of ICT such as graphic design, photo media, coding, lego robotics, circuitry, entrepreneurial skills, project management, video game design and the latest innovations in the technology industry.

Classes are designed to provide students with a unique learning experience, focused on fostering creativity and innovation. Students also have access to tertiary and industry partners, specialised excursions, incursions, guest speakers, industry partnerships and expos.

The College's research-based learning models are used to develop the ICT capability of students, as they learn to use ICT effectively and appropriately to access, create, communicate information and ideas, solve problems and work collaboratively.

At the end of three years, students will participate in a graduation event in recognition of their achievements.

## STEM INSTITUTE

The STEM Institute delivers an enriched and accelerated curriculum across Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, nurturing high achieving students to target career paths across a vast range of leading edge STEM professions.

Curriculum delivery within the STEM Institute focuses on an interdisciplinary approach across the STEM subjects. Lessons are designed around finding solutions to real world problems. The STEM Institute teaches skills such as critical thinking and problem solving and creates an environment that promotes innovation, collaboration and an entrepreneurial mind-set.

Students in the STEM Institute will have access to tertiary and industry partners, exposing them to professionals within the STEM fields. They will have the opportunity to showcase their work in various forums, including expos, competitions and business projects. Incursions and excursions are a valuable part of the program, enriching and enhancing the learning experience.

At the end of three years, students will participate in a graduation event in recognition of their achievements.

## WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW?

The program is offered in a learning environment that is technology smart and rich. To ensure that every student has access to the appropriate technology, parents will be required to supply a MacBook or laptop for school and home use (see specifications sheet for further details).

## WHAT DO I NEED TO APPLY FOR THIS PROGRAM?

Entry into this program is based on merit. All students will sit an online test focusing on Numeracy and general ability. Students may also be required to participate in a range of STEM and ICT based activities; both individual and group work will be included. The session will conclude with a getting to know you chat with a member of ASC staff.

Spaces in the program are limited and open to students state-wide. Expression of Interest form, School Report and General enrolment form must be submitted by **the due date** to Ashdale Secondary College.

## KEY DATES

| | |
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| Monday, 12 May | ICT Approved Specialist Program Parent Information Evening |
| Wednesday, 21 May | Expression of Interest submission deadline |
| 9 - 13 June | Testing at Ashdale Secondary College |
| 30 June - 4 July | Places confirmed |

**Student Name**                                                                                                    **Year of schooling**

**Primary School**

**Current teacher**

**Institute applying for:**
If both, indicate preference with 1 (first choice) or 2 (second choice)          Creative Technologies          STEM

**Please provide a brief statement identifying why you should be considered for the Ashdale Secondary College ICT Approved Specialist Program.**

**Parent Name**

**Parent Contact Number**

**Parent Email**

## DOCUMENTS TO BE PROVIDED

1. Latest school report
2. Ashdale Secondary College General Enrolment Form

**Submissions can be:**

- emailed to ashdale.sc@education.wa.edu.au
- returned to the Ashdale Secondary College Administration Office, 75 Westport Parade, Darch