



# ICT Approved Specialist Program

**OUT OF AREA PERMISSION SLIP TO BE SUBMITTED BY THURSDAY, 27 MARCH 2025, 3.30 PM.**

The 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. Students can choose between 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 encouraging inquiry-based teaching and learning strategies. There is a strong emphasis on creative and critical thinking, scientific methods and stimulating young minds' natural curiosity and innovation.

Students will have access to world-class facilities, equipment and 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 develop the students as self-directed learners. Students must commit to a compulsory one-hour lesson outside regular school hours, i.e., before or after school.

Students will participate in a graduation event at the end of three years to recognise their achievements.

## CREATIVE TECHNOLOGIES INSTITUTE

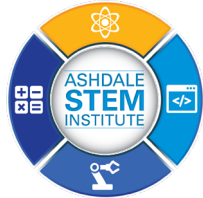


The Creative Technologies Institute delivers an enriched digital technologies curriculum while developing students' skills in various areas of ICT, such as graphic design, photo media, coding, lego robotics, circuitry, entrepreneurial skills, project management, video game design and the latest innovations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

Classes are designed to provide students with a unique learning experience, focused on fostering creativity and innovation. Students can also access 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.

## 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 critical thinking and problem-solving skills and creates an environment that promotes innovation, collaboration and an entrepreneurial mindset.

Students in the STEM Institute will have access to tertiary and industry partners, exposing them to professionals within the STEM fields. They will be able 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.

## 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 must 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 take an online test focusing on numeracy and general ability. Students may also be required to participate in various STEM and ICT-based activities, and 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.

Places are limited and open to students state-wide. **Permission slips must be submitted by the due date to Ashdale Secondary College.**

## KEY DATES

<b>Monday, 17 March 2025</b>	Online ICT Approved Specialist Program Parent Information Evening via Microsoft Teams
<b>Thursday, 27 March 2025</b>	Out of Area Students Round 1 Permission Slip submission deadline
<b>Tuesday, 1 April 2025</b>	Round 1 Testing In-area students at Cluster Primary School. Out-of-area students tested at Ashdale SC 8.15 am - 9.30 am
<b>7 - 10 April 2025</b>	Round 2 Testing offers sent by email
<b>Thursday, 15 May 2025</b>	Round 2 Testing at Ashdale SC ( <i>invite only</i> )
<b>3 - 6 June 2025</b>	Successful offeres sent via email