

# 2024 Impact Report

[dayofaiaustralia.com](https://dayofaiaustralia.com)



# Empowering Australia's Future Through Artificial Intelligence Literacy

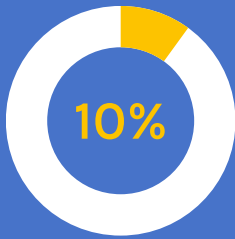
In just three years, Day of AI Australia has become a national force for artificial intelligence (AI) literacy—reaching more than 100,000 Australian students, expanding to all states and territories, and shaping how educators engage with the ethical, societal, and technological implications of artificial intelligence.

Day of AI Australia is a free, national program for students in Years 1 to 10, equipping the next generation with the skills to understand, use, and critically evaluate AI.

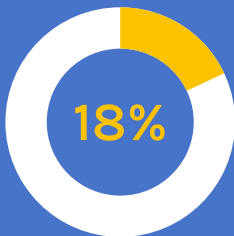
Day of AI Australia is developed by experts from across education, science, technology and industry, to bring leading thinking and ideas into classrooms across Australia. In 2024, we achieved our most significant reach and impact yet, laying a strong foundation for a transformative 2025.

**Our goal: Reach every classroom in Australia!**

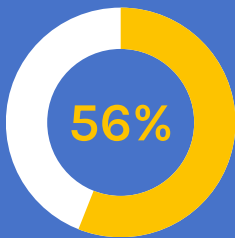
Youth who feel confident using AI tools<sup>1</sup>



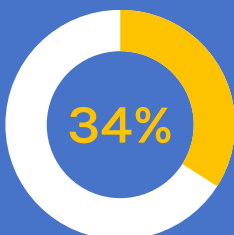
Percentage points by which girls trail boys in AI confidence



Students who have encountered deepfakes...



...and how many of them who can confidently spot misinformation.

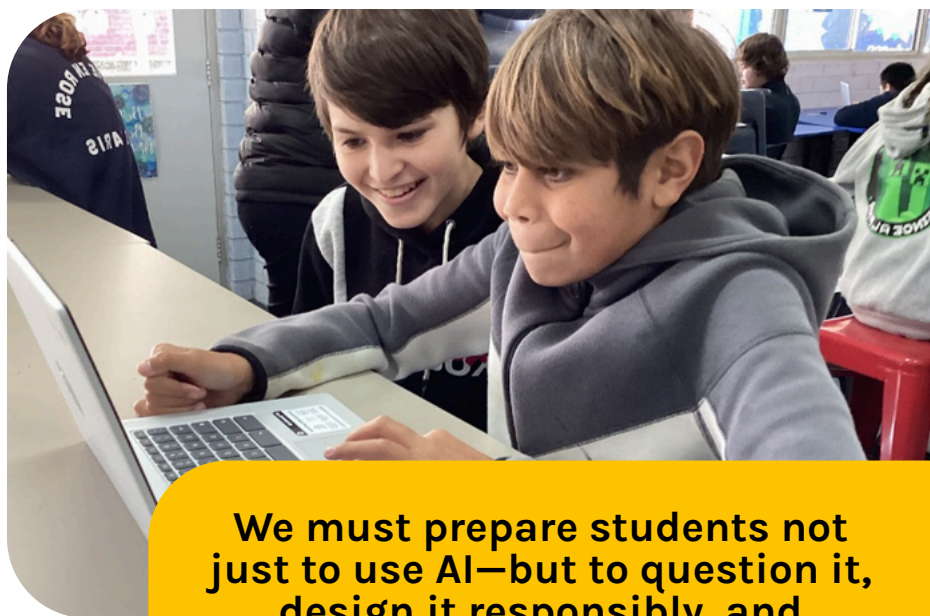


# Why AI Literacy Matters More Than Ever

AI is no longer the future; it's already here, shaping healthcare, education, jobs, and democracy. Yet many students remain unsure how it works or why it matters.

This knowledge gap isn't just technical; it's ethical, social, and personal. As AI continues to reshape everything from job markets to democracy, Australians must be equipped not just to use AI but to question it, understand its limitations, navigate it safely, and design it responsibly.

That's where Day of AI Australia comes in: providing free, curriculum-aligned resources that don't just teach what AI *is*, but what it *means*—for privacy, fairness, creativity, and the future of work.



**We must prepare students not just to use AI—but to question it, design it responsibly, and navigate it safely.**

# The Readiness Challenge



## Australia's workforce needs to scale fast

The Federal Government has set a target of 1.2 million tech workers by 2030.<sup>2</sup> Australia needs to grow its AI workforce by around 500% to meet projected demand by 2030.<sup>3</sup>

Up to  
**200,000**

new AI-related jobs could be created by then—ranging from

AI trainers and prompt engineers to policy leads and automation specialists.<sup>4</sup>

## Kids are already engaging with AI without the understanding



Children as young as 5 are using AI chatbots like ChatGPT.<sup>5</sup> While 84% of young Australians aged between 15 and 24 have utilised Gen AI, only 27% claimed to have an 'excellent/very good' understanding of it.<sup>6</sup>

## Educator confidence remains low

60% of educators believe the use of AI in education will significantly change teaching methodologies. Only 28% of educators feel confident in their ability to integrate AI into their classrooms.<sup>7</sup>

AI promises immense opportunity, but without proactive education, it also presents risks: algorithmic bias, misinformation, data misuse, and widening digital inequality.

Our challenge is urgent and clear: to close the AI literacy gap for students and teachers now, and build a future where all Australians can thrive in an AI-powered world.



# What is AI Literacy?

AI literacy is fast becoming a core skill, just as essential as reading, writing, and digital fluency. But it's about more than using AI tools. True AI literacy means understanding how these systems work, where they can go wrong, and what their use means for individuals and society.

At its core, AI literacy fosters critical thinking. Students learn to question AI-generated content, identify bias, and recognise when information may be misleading or incorrect. They also explore the ethical dimensions of AI, grappling with issues like data privacy, intellectual property, and the impact of automation on jobs and creativity.



Equipped with this knowledge, students can make informed choices about how they use AI in their learning and lives. And with the support of teachers, they learn to separate fact from fiction in an AI-powered world—an increasingly vital skill as AI tools become more pervasive and persuasive.

“The best part was seeing how excited the kids get about the concepts we are teaching them. It’s amazing to see the look of wonder on their face when they discover all the cool things AI can do. But also when they think critically and give us the answers about the right and wrong ways to use AI.”

— Kaitlin Murray, 2024 Classroom Champion, University of Newcastle



# The Digital Divide in Education

As AI becomes more prevalent, the risk of widening the digital divide grows. Students from disadvantaged backgrounds—including those in low-socioeconomic communities, First Nations students, and girls—often have less access to devices, reliable internet, and learning opportunities. These inequities not only limit participation in AI education, but also perpetuate underrepresentation in technology-related fields.

For some students, limited digital access is compounded by a lack of adult supervision or digital literacy at home, increasing the risk of exposure to misinformation, unsafe content, or misuse of AI tools.

While AI-powered educational technologies hold great promise, they are not without challenges. These tools can reflect bias, produce inaccurate or misleading outputs, and generate inappropriate content if not properly managed.

To truly benefit all learners, equitable access and strong safeguards are essential. AI tools must be guided by educational best practice, aligned with curriculum goals, and used in ways that promote safety, inclusion, and trust.

# About Day of AI Australia

Day of AI Australia is a free, national program that brings essential AI literacy to teachers and students in primary and high school. In 2024, our program was available for students in Years 5-10; in 2025, we have expanded to cover Years 1-10.

Designed to be hands-on, inclusive, and curriculum-aligned, the program helps young Australians understand what AI is, how it works, and why it matters—across topics like ethics, elections, sustainability, creativity, and more.

Launched in 2022 as part of a global initiative developed by MIT RAISE and i2 Learning, the program is delivered in Australia in partnership with UNSW and tailored specifically for the Australian classroom. Since then, it has reached over 100,000 students in every state and territory.

Every lesson is:

- **Age-appropriate and engaging** – sparking curiosity and building critical thinking
- **Teacher-friendly** – no tech expertise required
- **Classroom-ready** – with slides, activities, teacher notes, and optional extensions
- **Flexible** – deliver it in one day, a week, or across a term
- **Accessible** – only one device per two students is needed, and support is available for schools with limited resources

From early learners exploring how machines "see" the world, to Year 10 students debating the ethics of deepfakes, Day of AI equips every student with the tools to think critically, act ethically, and shape the future of technology.

The program also includes a Student Challenge, where students apply their learning to real-world problems. Finalist teams are invited to take part in the Dolphin Tank, where they work with mentors to refine their ideas, develop a prototype and pitch to expert judges.

# Our Principles

## Relevant

The Day's materials are aligned with the Australian Curriculum and are tailored to the Australian context, showcasing Australian scientists and technologies.

## Accessible

The Day of AI activities are designed to be easily delivered by all teachers and accessible to students of all abilities.

## Up-to-date

Our lessons are revised every year to ensure they include the latest information and contemporary examples.

## Free

AI is for everyone – that's why Day of AI is free for all schools around Australia. All material is Creative Commons.

## Interactive

We want young Australians to be curious about the incredible possibilities that await them. Fun, hands-on and creative activities are at the heart of the Day of AI and all our learning materials.

## Inclusive

The breadth and quality of AI technology depends on the diversity of its creators. Visible diversity in teaching materials and case studies allows students to see what they can be.

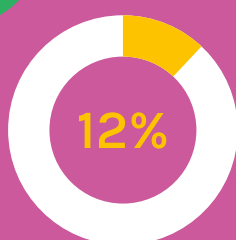
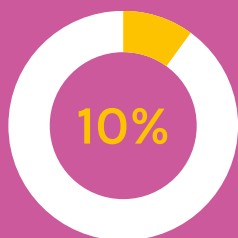


# 2024 Year in action

# 74,682

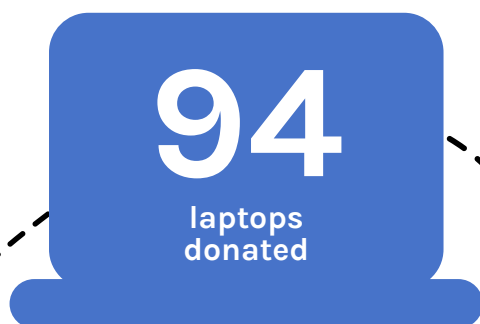
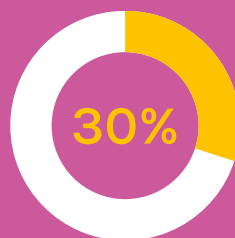
Students participated

from regional, rural or remote areas



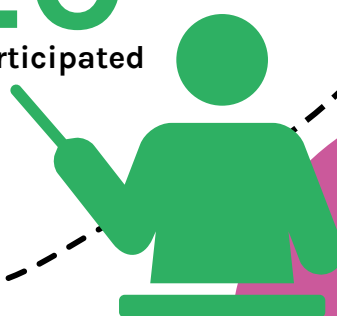
from low-ICSEA schools

attending government schools



to support equitable access

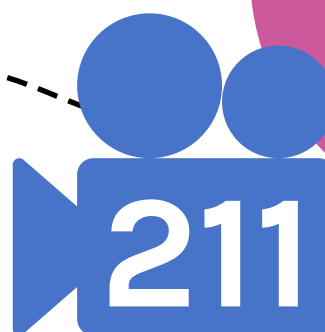
420 teachers participated



96% of teachers said they are likely or very likely to teach the material again

17 schools participated

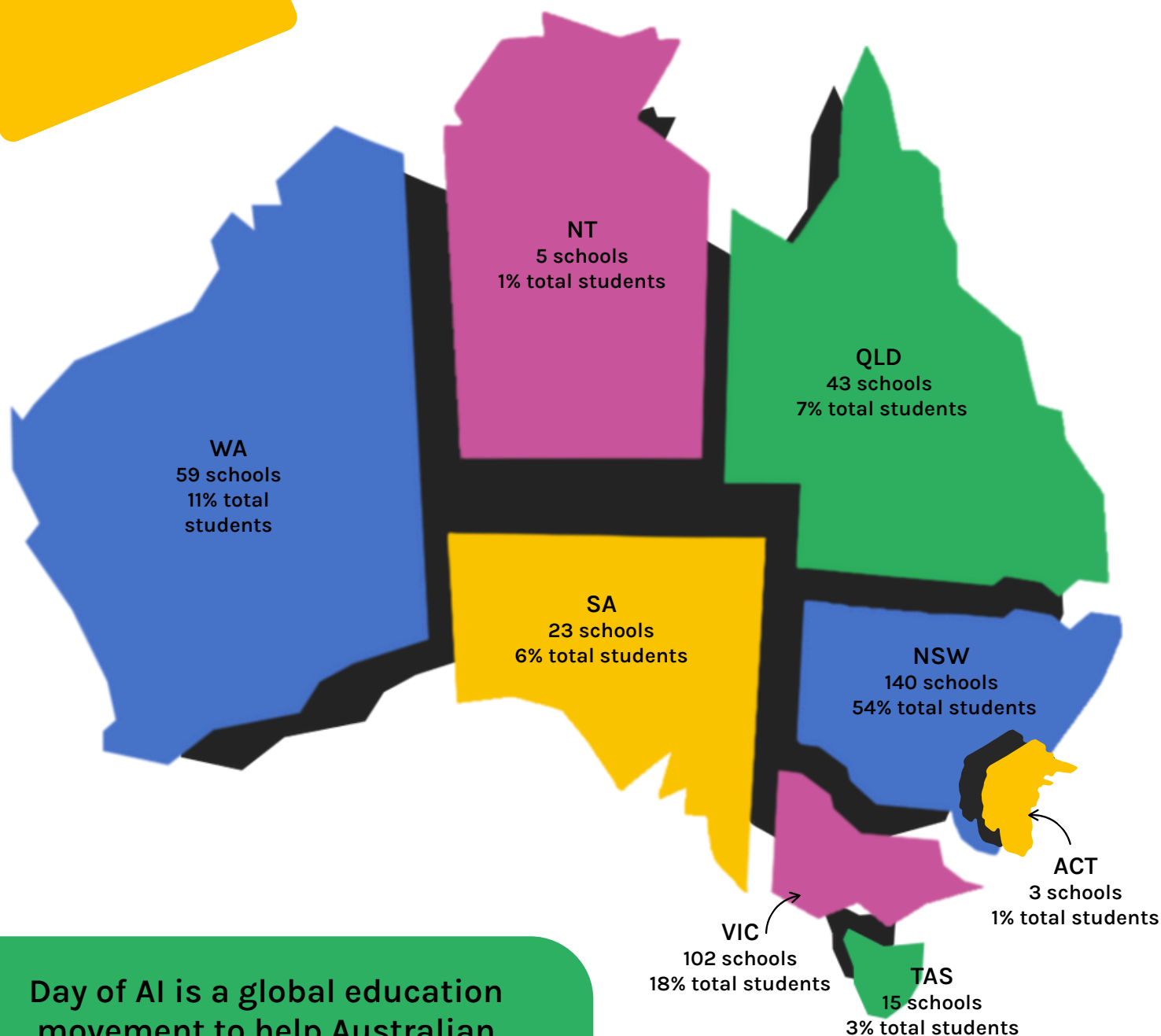
in incursion or excursion activities with Classroom Champions



Student Challenge entries

# A growing movement

Participation rose by 335% from 2023 highlighting growing national demand for foundational AI learning.



Day of AI is a global education movement to help Australian school students and teachers better understand the role of artificial intelligence in their lives and in their futures.



# Equity, Outreach and Innovation

Day of AI Australia aims to equip all Australian school students with foundational AI literacy, empowering them to confidently engage with, work with, and benefit from this transformative technology. We are especially committed to encouraging students, particularly girls and First Nations students, to explore pathways in STEM.



“Understanding AI empowers students to navigate and shape the future, providing them with the skills to innovate and solve complex problems. It also ensures they are not just passive consumers of technology but active contributors to its development, bridging the gap between technical expertise and creative thinking in various fields.”

— Jake Haynes,  
2024 Classroom Champion, ANU



# Classroom Champions: Incursions with impact

Our Classroom Champions initiative is one way Day of AI Australia is working to ensure equitable access to the program and is made possible with support from Rakt, Microsoft and our partner universities. Launched as a pilot in 2023, this initiative has expanded in 2024, with a focus on reaching students in government schools.

In 2024, we partnered with five leading universities (UNSW, Australian National University, Charles Darwin University, University of Newcastle and Edith Cowan University) to place 22 trained Computer Science, IT, and Engineering students into 17 low-SES government schools in NT, WA, ACT, NSW and Vic. Champion pairs are placed in priority schools to deliver the full Day of AI program, focusing on low-ICSEA government schools, schools with higher proportions of First Nations students, and suburban schools in major cities like Sydney's outer west.



Cheryl Wang



Maryam Saqib



Jess Ross



Firdaus  
Hairul Annuar



Yuval Kansal



Jake Haynes



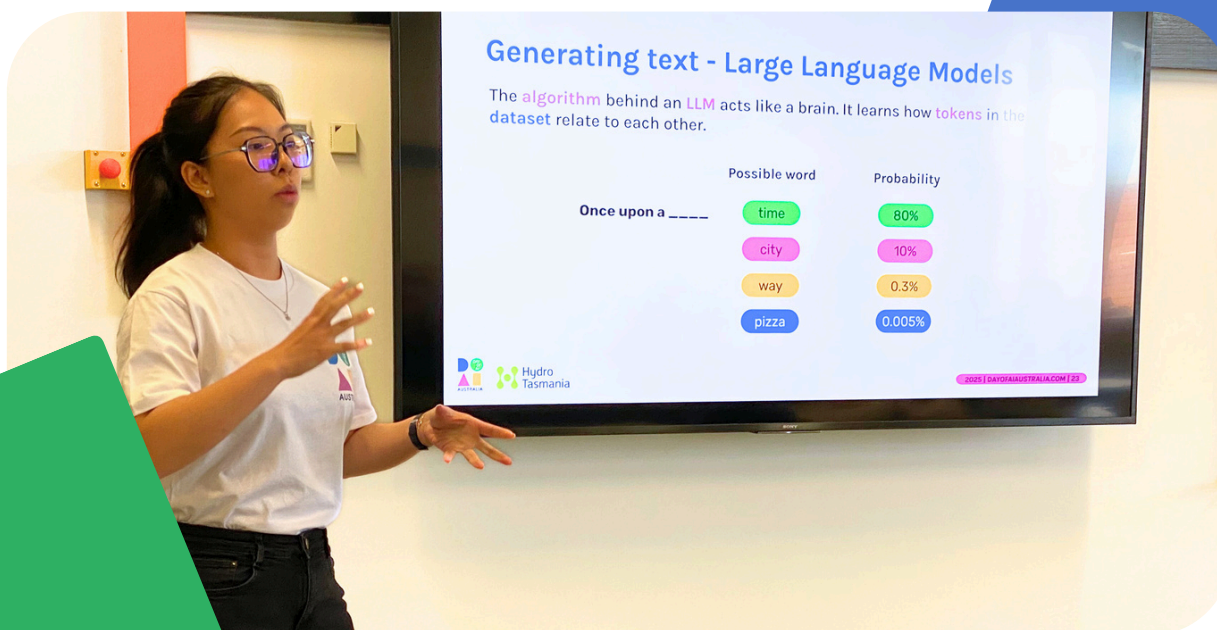
My Ngoc Doan  
(Jade)



Kaitlin Murray

Champions not only bring their skills, knowledge and passion for Computer Science, they provide strong, positive and relatable STEM role models, particularly for girls and First Nations students.





## Device Donations

Thanks to Officeworks, Google Chromebooks, and TDM Growth Partners, 94 Google Chromebooks were donated to government schools with limited tech access to participate in the program.

**“The donated devices enable our school to have a whole class set for Years 5/6. We are a small school with limited funds, so the donated laptops are truly appreciated—having a class set is truly awesome.”**

**— Zowie, Teacher  
Karama Primary School, NT**



# Program highlights



## Student Challenge

After completing the annual Day of AI lessons, students work to solve real world problems in our Student Challenge. In 2024 the problem to solve was “How can AI be used to tackle climate change or sustainability?”. More than 200 entries were received, with winners announced for each year group.

In 2024 we also selected six finalist teams to work with experts to refine their idea and develop a low-fidelity prototype. These six teams competed in our inaugural Dolphin Tank as part of National Science Week.

Student Challenge Winners receive prize money to spend on science or technology learning in the classroom, through experiences or equipment. Pictured: Winning students from Marist Sisters' College, Woolwich enjoying a virtual reality experience.





# Dolphin Tank

To celebrate National Science Week 2024 we teamed up with Rokt, UNSW and CSIRO. Six finalist teams from our Student Challenge presented ideas for how AI can tackle climate change and sustainability. Our panel of expert judges, Professor Flora Salim (UNSW), Claire Southey (Rokt) and Scientia Professor Toby Walsh (UNSW), were blown away by the pitches and prototypes.

A special thanks to the expert mentors from Rokt and UNSW who worked with the teams of students. Teams worked under the guidance of Day of AI Champions from UNSW, University of Newcastle and Australian National University.



## **Dolphin Tank Winners**

### **OCEAN ANALYTICS**

Arvan, Sean, Ethan, Victor and Vladimir  
North Sydney Boys High, NSW

## **Dolphin Tank Winners**

### **DROUGHT DETECT**

Taha, Rohan, Batool and Amira  
(not pictured)  
Fountain College, WA



## **Best Video Winners**

### **CLIFF HANGER**

Sarah, Holly and Fiona  
Torren's Valley Christian School, SA

# Dolphin Tank

Our National Science Week event also gave students the opportunity to hear from AI experts and people using AI in cutting-edge applications and ways you might not expect, including:

UNSW Sunswift team members Sooyoung and Aashi explained how their solar racing car uses AI modelling to optimise race-day performance, including visual data for lane detection and driver fatigue monitoring.



Dr Petra Kuhnert from CSIRO's Data61 using maths, stats and satellite data to monitor food supply including crop production in warzones like Ukraine.

UNSW Student Joe Cincotta from Taronga Conversation Society uses AI to identify giraffes and observe their motion.





**“It has been a huge learning curve for these students and a real chance for them to push themselves. They all really appreciate the time and effort you have poured into this project.”**

**— Cody, Year 6 teacher,  
Parafield Gardens Primary School**



**Andy Buchanan uses  
generative AI for making  
cartoons and animations.**



**Australian company  
Dreamscreen’s virtual production  
uses game engine techniques,  
camera tracking and visual effects  
to create stunning imagery for  
television and film.**



# Influencing beyond Australia



Roly Clifton-Bligh, TDM Foundation, attended a SEAMEO conference in Bangkok with MIT Professor Cynthia Breazeal in November 2024. Roly and Prof. Breazeal shared information about Day of AI and how the program is delivered in Australia. SEAMEO is a regional intergovernmental organisation which promotes regional cooperation in education, science and culture in Southeast Asian countries.

Natasha Banks, Program Director for Day of AI Australia, joined the FPT School's Open STEM Day in Vietnam in January to share how Day of AI Australia is reaching students and teachers.







You can  
watch it here!

## 2024 Program launch event in Parramatta

Our 2024 launch event held at UNSW's Parramatta campus featured a breakfast and panel discussion hosted by Sana Qadar, with our experts Stela Solar (National AI Centre), Scientia Professor Toby Walsh (UNSW), Lee Hickin (Microsoft) and Tim Lloyd (Plumpton High School) dug into how Teaching and Learning is evolving in the Age of AI.

Following the panel, year 5 and 6 students from Hilltop Road Public School joined Classroom Champion Olivia Wu and Curriculum Lead Zach Wingrave for the full day program.

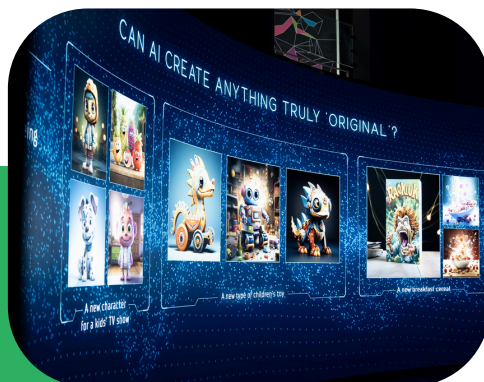






# 230+ students get hands-on with AI at Questacon

More than 230 students from schools across Canberra participated in an exciting, hands-on Day of AI Education at Questacon on 13 May.





# Looking ahead

## Day of AI is set to grow even bigger in 2025:

Reach goal:

# 150,000

Students participating



### Teacher Professional Learning:

In collaboration with UNSW and Microsoft Day of AI Australia will offer even more learning opportunities for teachers both in-person and virtually.

### Early Years Scaling:

Embed AI literacy into the foundations of learning from Year 1. Day of AI Australia now offers curriculum for Years 1-2 and Year 3-4, as well as Years 5-6 and Years 7-10.

### Impact research:

Working with UNSW to gain greater insights into how Day of AI supports teachers and students in AI literacy, competency and confidence.

### Introduction of "Beyond AI Literacy",

a new series of lessons, including:

- AI and the Natural World
- AI and Social Media
- Creating AI Guidelines
- Elections and AI
- AI Ethics Debate.

### Curriculum expansion

with new lessons for Years 1-4, including storytelling and design-based thinking.

# Renewed focus for 2025

In 2022, we launched the inaugural Day of AI to Years 7-10 across all Australian states and territories. In 2023, we expanded our reach even further to include primary school students in Years 5-6.

In 2024, we created a learning management system for a simple, seamless experience for teachers to access materials and deliver lessons to their students. The priorities for the team in 2024 were reaching low-ICSEA and diverse communities and First Nations students, increasing participation for girls, and growing our partner network.

In 2025 we have a target to reach 150,000 students across the country, with a renewed focus on reaching:

- Students in low-ICSEA government schools
- Schools in regional communities
- First Nations students and
- Girls

The team is also working on securing sustainable funding partnerships to build impact and reach for the program.



Day of AI was a blast! Students were engaged right from the get-go... The resources were super adaptable, allowing me to tailor the program perfectly to our school and method of delivery.”

— Tamara, St Anthony’s Catholic College, QLD

# Get involved in 2025

Whether you're new to AI or looking to extend classroom practice, joining Day of AI is simple. Visit our site to access the full curriculum, plan your day, and explore professional learning opportunities.

## Register on our website

Whether you're based in a major city, regional or rural area, we want students and teachers across Australia to take part in Day of AI. All that schools need is an internet connection and access to a laptop. To register, visit [dayofaiaustralia.com/register-2025/](https://dayofaiaustralia.com/register-2025/) and create an account for our learning management system.

1



2



## Access free resources and training

Once registered, teachers receive everything they need to deliver Day of AI with confidence—no extra prep required.

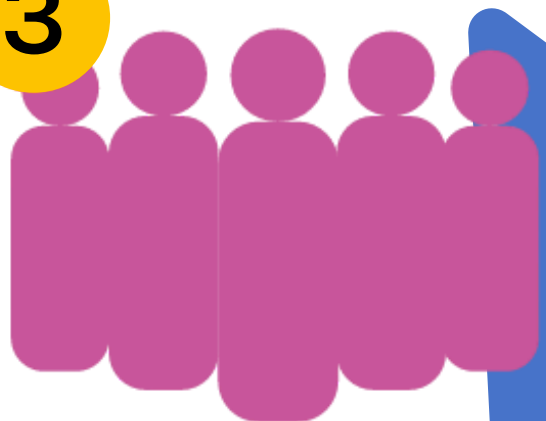
The program is supported by a wide range of resources, including a series of instructional videos and a tech guide, so any teacher can feel fully prepared.

## Participate in Day of AI

We know every school is different—that's why Day of AI is designed to be flexible.

It can be taught at any time during the year and delivered in a single day, across a week, or spread over a full term to suit your schedule.

3







# A growing network of partners

Great things happen when the right people work together. By building meaningful partnerships across government, education and the tech industry—both in Australia and around the world—we are laying the foundation for students to flourish in a future powered by technology.

Thank you to our supporters—educators, students, and families who participated in Day of AI Australia 2024.

Huge thanks to our philanthropic funders and corporate partners. Together, we are building the future of education, one classroom at a time.

Particular thanks to those team members from Rokt, UNSW and TDM Growth Partners who have contributed time and expertise to the program.

“It can help us - inspire us, teach us new things and also provide new jobs. We will need people who can program the AI to do what they do.”

— Student, Wanniasa School, ACT

# Our 2025 partners

“AI is already all around us and it is going to increasingly be part of how we live, work, study and play. It is so important for all Australian kids to understand what AI is and how it works. To see the opportunities, but also to understand the risks. The TDM Foundation is proud to bring Day of AI to Australian schools.”

— Roly Clifton-Bligh, TDM Foundation

## POWERED BY



## IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Commonwealth Bank



## FUNDED BY



## CLASSROOM CHAMPIONS



Australian National University



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
NEWCASTLE  
AUSTRALIA



## WITH SUPPORT FROM



# Appendix

## Curriculum aligned materials and international best practice for AI education

All materials remain free, teacher-tested, and aligned with the Australian Curriculum v9 as well as specific state and territory curriculum and syllabus.

Day of AI is aligned with a range of national, state and territory guidance, policy, legislation and frameworks regarding the safe, ethical and responsible use of AI in classrooms and schools, including the [New South Wales AI Assessment Framework](#) and the Victorian [Digital Technologies Responsible Use Policy](#).



Day of AI is also aligned to the following national frameworks, legislation and resources:

- *Australian Framework for Generative AI in Schools*
- *The Privacy Act 1988 (Cth)*
- *eSafety Commissioner's Toolkit for Schools*
- *Safety by Design (Office of the eSafety Commissioner)*

And International:

- *UNICEF Policy Guidance on AI for Children*
- *UNESCO Guidance on Generative AI in Education and Research*

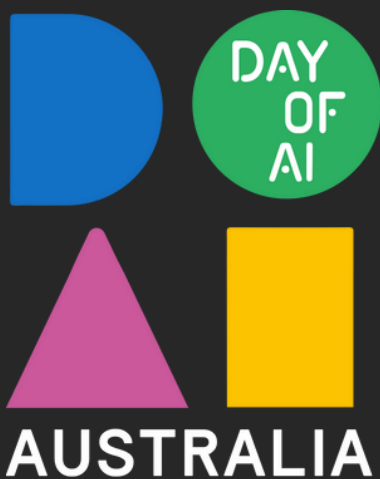
Each Day of AI lesson is mapped to learning areas and content descriptors, and embeds general capabilities including ethical understanding, critical thinking, and digital literacy. Lessons are reviewed annually by educators, researchers, and experts to ensure accuracy, safety and pedagogical relevance.



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Access our  
2025  
program  
now



Day of AI Australia acknowledges First Nations peoples as the Traditional Custodians and first scientists, innovators and educators of this land and their continuing connection to Country. We pay our respects to the Elders past and present.