

Time	Session Name			Room
8:15am	Guest arrival and registration at Wrest Point EXPO open Arrival tea and coffee			EXPO
Opening Session				
9:00am	Welcome Address & Housekeeping			Auditorium
9:05am	Welcome to Country			
9:10am	ACS CEO Welcome Josh Griggs, Chief Executive Officer, ACS			
9:20am	Minister's Address TASITE Award Presentation			
9:35am	Digital Pulse, ACS Strategy Siobhan O'Sullivan, Chief Growth Officer, ACS			
9:45am	Keynote Presentation + Audience Q&A Adam Spencer			
10:30am	Morning Tea Break			EXPO
Breakout Sessions (see p.3-7 for detailed descriptions for each session)				
	<i>Power tech's brilliance</i> Tech Leadership Stream	<i>Redefine what's possible</i> Career Stream	<i>Inspire next-gen talent</i> Educators Stream	
11:00am-11:45am	Panel Discussion Navigating the AI Frontier: Ethics in Practice - A Tasmanian Perspective Lynn Warneke and Mark Pederson, ACS Technical Advisory Board - AI Ethics Committee	Presentation Navigating your tech career: Marketing yourself beyond the resume *Speakers to be announced	Workshop Group 1: Modelling emerging technologies using hands-on STEM practice Heather Catchpole, Questacon Group 2: Teaching coding with AI: helpful or harmful? Bob Elliott, Department for Education, Children and Young People (DECYP)	
11:45am - 12:30pm	Presentation Transforming Government IT: The SFIA Framework Journey Lisa Syrek, ACS Nigel Bailey, Spirit of Tasmania Justin Thurley, Tasmanian Government	Presentation How to build a strong cv and nail your next interview *Speakers to be announced	Workshop Group 1: Mission to Innovate: A Design Thinking Journey Michele Pikunic, St Aloysius Catholic College Group 2: Drone Session (Title TBC) *Speakers to be announced	
12:30pm - 1:30pm	Lunch Break			EXPO

Senior Secondary Stream (Year 11 & 12) - Please refer to the separate program

Breakout Sessions - continued (see p.3-7 for detailed descriptions of each session)

	<i>Power tech's brilliance</i> Tech Leadership Stream	<i>Redefine what's possible</i> Career Stream	<i>Inspire next-gen talent</i> Educators Stream
1:30pm - 2:15pm	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>Tasmania's Tech Ecosystem: Opportunities, Community, and Challenges</p> <p>[Facilitator] Siobhan O'Sullivan</p> <p>[Panelist] Andrew Davies, Taz Drone Solutions <i>*More panellists to be announced</i></p>	<p>Presentation</p> <p>Unveiling the Path to Internship & Graduate Programs in the Tech Industry <i>*Speakers to be announced</i></p>	<p>Workshop</p> <p>Micro:bit's in Action: Engaging STEM Learning David Titherley, Waimea Heights Primary School</p>
2:15pm - 3:00pm	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>Identifying the Next Tech Talent: Unlocking Tasmania's Hidden Potential Speakers to be announced</p>	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>Exploring different employment pathways to enter the tech industry Speakers to be announced</p>	<p>Presentation</p> <p>2:15pm - 3:15pm Chat GPT and Mathematics Session (Title TBC) for Educators Adam Spencer</p>
3:00pm - 3:40pm	Afternoon Tea Break		EXPO

Closing Session

3:40pm	Event Partner Address		Auditorium
3:45pm	Closing Panel + Audience Q&A Facilitator: Adam Spencer Techtopia Unleashed: Building Tasmania's Collaborative STEAM Ecosystem		
4:30pm	ACS Overview and Membership Benefits		
4:40pm	Closing remark and reflections		
4:50pm	Event Close		
5:00pm - 6:00pm	Networking Drinks		EXPO

Thank you to our partners

Event Partner

Networking Sponsor

Community Partner



Power tech’s brilliance – Tech Leadership Stream

Time	Session Name
11:00am-11:45am	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>Navigating the AI Frontier: Ethics in Practice – A Tasmanian Perspective Lynn Warneke and Mark Pederson, ACS AI Ethics Committee</p> <p>Join us for an illuminating session at the heart of Tasmania's tech ecosystem, where the Australian Computer Society's AI Ethics Committee brings its national expertise to Tasmania. As AI reshapes our world, understanding ethical implementation isn't just theory—it's essential for every technology professional.</p> <p>This interactive session bridges the gap between high-level ethical principles and practical implementation, offering unique insights from Australia's leading minds in responsible AI development. Drawing from the ACS AI Ethics Committee's framework, we'll explore real-world scenarios facing Tasmanian businesses and innovators.</p> <p>Key Explorations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Translating ethical AI principles into actionable governance • Building trust in AI systems while driving innovation • Addressing unique challenges and opportunities for regional AI development • Ensuring responsible AI adoption in Tasmania's key industries <p>Perfect for technology leaders, developers, policymakers, and anyone interested in shaping an ethical AI future. Leave with practical frameworks and strategies to implement responsible AI practices in your organisation.</p> <p>Facilitated by members of the ACS AI Ethics Committee, this session promises to be an essential milestone in Tasmania's journey toward ethical AI leadership.</p>
11:45am - 12:30pm	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>Transforming Government IT: The SFIA Framework Journey Lisa Syrek, ACS Nigel Bailey, Spirit of Tasmania Justin Thurley, Tasmanian Government</p> <p>Join us for an insightful 45-minute session exploring the strategic implementation of the Skills Framework for the Information Age (SFIA) across government IT departments. This presentation is tailored for IT professionals eager to understand the impact of standardised skills frameworks in large-scale organisations.</p> <p>In this session, you'll discover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview of the SFIA framework and its relevance in today's IT landscape • The government's approach to rolling out SFIA across diverse IT departments • Challenges faced and overcome during the implementation process • Real-world benefits and outcomes of adopting SFIA in public sector IT • Lessons learned and best practices for organizations considering SFIA adoption
12:30pm - 1:30pm	Lunch Break

Power tech's brilliance – Tech Leadership Stream

Time	Session Name
1:30pm – 2:15pm	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>Tasmania's Tech Ecosystem: Opportunities, community and challenges</p> <p>Facilitator Siobhan O`Sullivan, ACS</p> <p>Panelist Andrew Davies, Taz Drone Solutions <i>*More panellists to be announced</i></p> <p>Join us for an engaging panel discussion exploring the unique landscape of Tasmania's technology sector. This session brings together local tech leaders, startup founders, and industry experts to share insights on what makes Tasmania a distinctive place for tech innovation.</p> <p>Our panelists will delve into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The competitive advantages of operating a tech company in Tasmania • How Tasmania's close-knit tech community fosters collaboration and growth • The unique challenges facing Tasmanian tech startups and strategies to overcome them • Balancing the benefits of a supportive local ecosystem with the need for global reach • Future prospects and opportunities for Tasmania's tech industry
2:15pm – 3:00pm	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>Identifying the Next Tech Talent: Unlocking Tasmania's Hidden Potential</p> <p>Speakers to be announced</p> <p>In today's competitive tech landscape, discovering and nurturing diverse talent is crucial for business success. With \$200 million and 361 FTE positions lost annually through underutilised talent in Tasmania, the opportunity for growth is significant.</p> <p>This session explores practical strategies for building effective talent pipelines, leveraging internship programs, and harnessing diversity for enhanced ROI. Join industry leaders as we discuss actionable approaches to transform these challenges into opportunities for Tasmania's tech ecosystem.</p> <p>Key takeaways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversity-driven talent acquisition strategies • Effective internship pathways • Unlocking local talent potential
3:00pm – 3:30pm	Afternoon Tea Break
3:30pm – 5:00pm	<u>Closing Session (see main program)</u>

Redefine what's possible - **Career Stream**

Time	Session Name
11:00am-11:45am	<p>Presentation</p> <p>Navigating your tech career: Marketing yourself beyond the resume Speakers to be announced</p> <p>In this session we will be exploring strategies outside of the box to build your profile and experiences for your resume to help you stand out from the pack. We'll explore free tools you can utilise and activities you can get involved in to build your career profile, broaden your network and help when it comes to finding your first/next tech job role.</p> <p>Topics covered within the session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to build your personal brand • Importance of networking • How to utilise LinkedIn • Benefits of extra curriculum activities
11:45am - 12:30pm	<p>Presentation</p> <p>How to build a strong CV and nail your next interview Speakers to be announced</p> <p>Are you looking to start applying for your first graduate position, internship or job and not sure where to start? In this session we will be providing tips and tricks on how to build an eye catching and strong cover letter and resume, and share insights into how to best prepare for your first interview.</p>
12:30pm - 1:30pm	<p>Lunch Break</p>
1:30pm - 2:15pm	<p>Presentation</p> <p>Unveiling the Path to Internship & Graduate Programs in the Tech Industry Speakers to be announced</p> <p>Do you harbour ambitions of working at a renowned company? Ever wondered how to get your foot into the big names in the tech industry within Tasmania? Prepare to hear directly from interns, graduates and employees at tech companies as they delve into their personal journeys securing these opportunities, recounting the obstacles they encountered, the milestones they achieved, and the invaluable lessons they learned along the way.</p> <p>Whether you're a student aspiring to break into the industry, a recent graduate looking for your first job, or interested in a career change, this session is for you!</p>
2:15pm - 3:00pm	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>Exploring different employment pathways to enter the tech industry Speakers to be announced</p> <p>Are you an international student, recent graduate or career changer wanting to kick start your career in tech, hear from a range of speakers representing different pathways and considerations to help you land your dream job? Within this session we will learn more about traineeship and internship opportunities in Tasmania, the value of the ACS Professional Year Program and Skilled Migration journey, and where to start if you have a start up idea and more.</p>
3:00pm - 3:30pm	<p>Afternoon Tea Break</p>
3:30pm - 5:00pm	<p>Closing Session (see main program)</p>

Inspire next-gen talent - **Educators Stream**

Time	Session Name	
	Group 1	Group 2
11:00am - 11:45am	<p>Workshop</p> <p>Modelling emerging technologies using hands-on STEM practice Heather Catchpole, Questacon</p> <p>Using a low-tech approach, we look at how you can start modelling STEM practice, focusing on AI as an emerging technology and its links into the curriculum, and based on Questacon's Engineering is Elementary professional learning workshops. You'll use a simple sorting project to teach principles of machine learning and data sets. A machine learning algorithm is a process or set of rules used by a computer to find and apply patterns in data. In this activity, you'll model a simple data project that can be adapted to Primary or early High School learning and use interactive processes to map to curriculum using hexagon curriculum mapping tools.</p>	<p>Presentation</p> <p>Teaching coding with AI: helpful or harmful? Bob Elliott, Department for Education, Children and Young People (DECYP)</p> <p>The early evidence is very clear that use of generative AI can have very negative impacts on students' acquisition of coding skills. We could respond defensively by using techniques such as a small hand written coding exams. This session will explore ways to use Ai to solidify student understanding and allow them earlier access to more advanced concepts.</p>
11:45am - 12:30pm	<p>Workshop</p> <p>Mission to Innovate: A Design Thinking Journey Michele Pikunic, St Aloysius Catholic College</p> <p>Embark on an exciting journey where design thinking meets creativity, innovation, and real-world problem-solving! Through a space-themed adventure, participants will explore each stage of design thinking while working collaboratively to solve a space-inspired challenge. This hands-on workshop will equip participants with practical tools and strategies to bring innovation to your classroom!</p>	<p>Workshop</p> <p>Drone Session (Topic TBC) Andrew Davies, Taz Drone Solutions</p> <p>*More details to come</p>
12:30pm - 1:30pm	Lunch Break	
1:30pm - 2:15pm	<p>Workshop</p> <p>Micro:bit's in Action: Engaging STEM Learning David Titherley, Waimea Heights Primary School</p> <p>Inspire your students' creativity by exploring how Micro:bit's can enhance a range of STEM projects in the classroom. Discover how students can use micro: bits to collect and measure real-world data from their local environment. Learn how to manage students' coding projects by integrating 'Micro:bit Classroom' into your lessons.</p>	
2:15pm - 3:00pm	<p>Chat GPT and Mathematics Session (Title TBC) for Educators Adam Spencer</p>	
3:00pm - 3:30pm	Afternoon Tea Break	
3:30pm - 5:00pm	Closing Session (see main program)	

Important Reminder

Senior secondary stream is **strictly invite only** and all registrations must be completed by a representative of each school. Please contact events@acs.org.au for more information.

Seize future opportunities - Senior Secondary Stream (Year 11 & 12)

A Dedicated Stream for Senior Secondary Students at EdCAT 2025!

We're thrilled to introduce a special stream tailored specifically for senior secondary students at EdCAT 2025.

Key features include:

- Captivating Keynote Presentation by renowned "numbers nerd" Adam Spencer.
- Two career discovery sessions to help uncover your future career path.
- Optional EXPO Tour* (subject to arrival time).

This is a fantastic opportunity for students to connect with industry professionals, gain valuable insights, and explore their potential.

Registration Fee: Free

Time	Session Name
8:15am-9:30am	Optional EXPO tour *Please contact ACS for more information
9:45am-10:30am	Keynote Presentation + Audience Q&A Adam Spencer
10:30am-11:00am	Morning Tea Break
11:00am-11:45am	<p>Presentation</p> <p>Unlock your potential: Discover diverse career pathways in tech</p> <p>Speakers to be announced</p> <p>Are you wanting to understand what opportunities are available in the tech industry and what a day in the life of would look like? Hear from our 3 industry representatives as they share insights into their career and job role, and how they got from school to where they are today.</p>
11:45am - 12:30pm	<p>Presentation</p> <p>How to pursue a career in technology?</p> <p>Speakers to be announced</p> <p>Are you considering a career in technology but not sure what the education and employment options are to kickstart your career after school? Hear from industry and education representatives as they provide insights into the different study and employment opportunities, understand the requirements to qualify to pursue those opportunities and what qualifications you finish with to help you continue to build a successful career.</p>

Students to depart

Registration Fees

Ticket Type	Early Bird (before 28 Feb 2025)	Full Fee	Inclusions
ACS Member	\$65	\$85	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All day catering (arrival tea and coffee, morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea) Access to Plenary and breakout sessions including Keynote presentation Access to EdCAT EXPO
ACS Non-member	\$100	\$120	
ACS Member Concession	\$10	\$20	Inclusions same as above.
Non-member Concession	\$20	\$40	*You must present your Student ID or concession card on arrival for verification.
ICT Educators		\$72	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All day catering (arrival tea and coffee, morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea) Access to Plenary and breakout sessions including Keynote presentation Access to EdCAT EXPO Information session on ACS membership benefits <p>*To qualify, you must be currently registered with the Teachers Registration Board Tasmania. Please see their website for more information.</p>

Event FAQs

Q. This looks like a great event and I'm keen to sign up as a member. How do I go about that?

That is fantastic news! Please contact events@acs.org.au so we can assist you further. You can also find more information about joining ACS [here](#).

Q. Can I choose to attend any stream on the day?

Absolutely! Please note that some sessions have limited room capacities. The Educators stream is restricted to qualified ICT educators only.

Q. Will there be parking onsite?

Wrest Point provides complimentary car parking for all guests, including multi-story undercover parking and two overflow car park areas. Find out more on their [website](#).

Q. I am based outside of Hobart. Will there be a virtual option?

At this time, EdCAT will be an in-person-only event for 2025. However, we're happy to notify you if a virtual component is added to the program. Please contact events@acs.org.au with your details, and we will ensure you stay informed.

For general event inquiries

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