



What are Build ME a Future Days?

Build ME a Future Days aim to foster interest and engagement in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) in **year 7 and 8 students**. The days are designed to bridge the gap between school and university, and to showcase how STEM careers can make a positive impact in the world.

Each day includes a selection of competitive, hands-on STEM challenges, as well as the opportunity to explore the University and some of the amazing things that happen there.

The program is scalable up to a maximum of eight schools, each with a team of up to 32 students each day.

Why participate in Build ME a Future Days?

Schools that have participated in Build ME a Future Days have indicated that it has had a significant, positive and lasting effect on the students' attitude to STEM in the classroom.

Just like the Science and Engineering Challenge (SEC) for year 9-10 students, Build ME a Future Days provide relevant, hands-on experiences that dispel misconceptions and encourage young people to choose a STEM career.



What do students do?

Build ME a Future Days typically run between 9:30am and 2:30pm. During the day students are streamed through 2 or more inspirational activities, including SEC-style projects such as building a working model bridge, catapult, or electrical network, and University experiences such as tours of research labs, Undergraduate/Postgraduate talks, science demonstrations, and workshops in civil engineering, forensics or robotics. Industry leaders also attend to speak with students about their own career paths in STEM. In order to maximise students' experience, activities are broken into 2 x 2 hour and 4 x 1 hour sessions.

"I enjoyed the fact that I was able to experience things I never thought would interest me. My horizons have been broadened."

How much does it cost?

Build ME a Future Days are a unique partnership. They are delivered by the Science and Engineering Challenge, and supported by Regional Development Australia Hunter's ME program, and the University of Newcastle Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment, and Faculty of Science.

As a result, there is no cost to participating schools except, of course, for transport to and from the University of Newcastle.