

Thank you for showing interest in the illuminate:nextgen Challenge to you, which is an exciting and immersive education experience that is activating the next generation of confident, creative and capable young people that they have the potential to be through an immersive and authentic learning opportunity - and we look forward to the opportunity of working with your students.

As an overview of the program, the illuminate:nextgen Challenge is a week-long immersive experience that provides an opportunity for students to be the confident, creative and capable young people they have the potential to be in an authentic learning opportunity. Facilitated by skilled facilitators at every step with the support of the local community, students work in teams to explore what it takes to get a new project or business idea off the ground, developing key skills in the following areas;

- Communication (Speaking, Writing & Presentation Skills)
- Understanding (Critical Thinking, Inquiry, Digital & Financial Literacy)
- Solve Problems (Creativity, Problem Solving & Reflection)
- Work Smart (Collaboration, Organisation & Perseverance)

Designed by Adam Mostogl (Top 30 Under 30 Australian Entrepreneurs 2017, Finalist for Young Australian of the Year 2015), the entire challenge provides an authentic experience of the working world while still being educationally relevant, allowing students to grow and stretch at every stage. Students will be provided with opportunities to present industry-relevant submission with opportunities to develop, reflect and refine all components with support from illuminate Education's facilitators who design and deliver every component of the program. With over 8500 students across Australia having completed the program, along with international recognition for our work, the illuminate:nextgen Challenge is an incredibly impactful experience that will leave your students, teachers and wider community inspired for years to come.

illuminate Education has designed the challenge to work with a large range of students, using high-engagement teaching strategies, interactive workshops and small group tasks to allow the challenge to apply to all students in a differentiated manner. With this in mind, the challenge is best delivered with an entire year group participating (or multiple years) as two facilitators can accommodate up to 250 students in a single challenge. All submissions required through the challenge are introduced in the week, meaning students that have not completed business subjects before or even done any work around problem-solving and implementing solutions can still flourish and achieve, and with the program aligned across the Australian Curriculum as well as the Australian Blueprint for Career Development, many students complete the week tackling challenges that underpin learning in a broad range of subjects.

I believe that while many of your students would flourish in this learning environment, we would recommend offering this to students who;

- Are interested in starting their own business, regularly shows initiative and leadership along with being creative in their approaches to problems, or
- Are disengaging (or disengaged) from learning in a classroom, as the authentic application of real world skills allows for students to flourish in the way the challenge is delivered, or
- Could be leaders in the future, so they can benefit from the skills developed in the challenge to excel no matter their future decisions, or
- Currently considering if further education is an option for them, as it will give them an authentic experience of what an adult learning environment is like, or
- Are excelling in school as this learning environment is self-directed allowing their skills and passions to drive their performance, or
- Are undertaking business, commerce and accounting classes as the content will be delivered by people in the fields to boost their knowledge and allow them to apply the knowledge in a new environment.

I am confident that you have students that would fit into a range of these areas and could benefit from the challenge experience. Attached are additional details about the challenge along with answers to common questions, and I am more than willing to discuss the program further with you or the relevant staff member to support your school taking advantage of this program.



Adam Mostogl

Founder / Inspirer of illuminate Education

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Frequently Asked Questions

When is the illuminate:nextgen Challenge?

The illuminate:nextgen Challenge will run across five consecutive days, from Monday to Friday between 9:30am and 2:30pm. There is also an awards ceremony on the final day in the evening, from 5:30pm until 7:00pm..

Where is the illuminate:nextgen Challenge held?

On Monday, Tuesday and Friday, the challenge will be run at a central location, announced with the dates of the challenge.

On Wednesday & Thursday, students can complete the challenge from their own school rather than travelling, with support throughout via digital technology.

What does it cost?

Because of the support of Chartered Accountants Australia & New Zealand, there is no charge to schools to register for the challenge. They believe in the impact this program will have on your students, and are covering the costs to deliver the challenge.

What is the exact theme of the challenge?

We keep the exact wording of the theme secret until the opening presentation of the challenge, to add to the excitement and pressure of the experience. This ensures that all students have the opportunity to approach the challenge with an open mind, but the theme will be relevant to the economy and region.

How many students and teams will be involved?

Entries are limited based on the capacity of the venue. Teams should consist of between five and eight students, with seven being the recommended number of students per team. If you do not have enough students to make a whole team but want to be involved, please contact illuminate Education directly for alternate arrangements.

How do I register my students?

You can easily register your students online at www.illuminateeducation.com.au/eoi/ or else you can contact Jessi (jessi@illuminateeducation.com.au) to answer any questions and provide support.

Do students require any prior knowledge?

No. The challenge is developed so all students can learn the basics of problem solving and presenting a new idea in the challenge.

What are the supervision requirements?

For days hosted offsite, schools should provide appropriate supervision in accordance with the school's risk management policy. illuminate Education will have at least one facilitator attending the program at all times, with all facilitators holding current Working with Vulnerable People checks (or their home state alternative).

What will teachers do during the challenge?

During the challenge, illuminate Education deliver the program and facilitate all of the sessions. We also invite speakers from the community to present content as well as judge student work. While facilitators will lead the learning environment, teachers still have important roles throughout the week.

Teachers will support the learning environment with behaviour management where required, as well as providing mentoring support to teams as required. With a focus on students being independent in their teams, there is an opportunity for teachers to undertake their own tasks during this time, but should prioritise supporting teams where possible. Teachers will be provided with a briefing about these roles which is also outlined in their handbook for the week, and can consult with the illuminate Education during the challenge for additional assistance.

How is student achievement recognised?

On the final day of the challenge (preferably in the evening to allow parents to attend), an awards ceremony is hosted to celebrate student achievements across the challenge. Certificates will be awarded to teams based on scores from judges, along with the Overall Best Solution being awarded a prize as well.

All students who complete the challenge will also get a certificate recognising their completion of the challenge, which will be posted to the school shortly after the challenge has concluded.

How are the awards decided?

Two major awards (Overall Best Solution and Runner Up Best Solution) along with category awards are handed out at the awards ceremony on the last day of the challenge. The judging panel is made up of community members as well as illuminate Education's vast network of supporters, and judges will assess student work against the following criteria;

1. Strategy & Organisation
2. Research & Inquiry
3. Creativity & Innovation
4. Financial Interpretation
5. Communication
6. Use of Digital Technology
7. Real World Application

Every task has rubrics that outlines the level of student achievement to receive marks, and these are all accessible to students throughout the challenge.

Is attendance on site compulsory?

It is compulsory for students to attend the central location on the Monday, Tuesday and Friday. These are the days where students can interact with facilitators and invited guests, as well as present their solutions in person.

Aside from the compulsory days, there are two attendance options for Wednesday and Thursday:

OPTION 1: Students continue to come to the central location. Presentations will be available online to allow students to set their own schedule for the day, and manage their own deadlines.

OPTION 2: Students have the opportunity to complete the online submissions from their school. Schools will need to provide a dedicated working space for students to complete the tasks and access the scheduled presentations online. Students and facilitators will communicate via Slack, simulating a remote working experience, and with no disadvantage in the level of support available to them compared to attendance on campus.

After registration, please advise us of your attendance arrangements at your earliest convenience.

What equipment will students require?

All teams will be provided with a folder containing resources that will be useful for the week, along with links to an online resource. Additionally, students can bring the following optional items:

- Laptops or tablets, at least one per team throughout the entire challenge.
- Pens and paper. These can be used to take notes and support the learning environment.
- As the challenge progresses, students may decide to bring additional resources or equipment from home/ school, specifically for their demonstration hall stall promoting their business.

What should students wear?

Students should wear their school uniform from Monday to Thursday while completing the challenge. On Friday, we prefer to have students wear neat attire relevant to their business idea for their presentation as well as display, or can continue to wear their school uniform.

How does the challenge align with the curriculum?

All sessions and tasks throughout the challenge are aligned with the Victorian and Australian Curriculum. The challenge meets content descriptors for the General Capabilities as well as English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and Social Sciences, Technologies, the Arts and Work Studies, as well as the Australian Blueprint for Career Development. These are available upon request from illuminate Education.

Why does Chartered Accountants Australia & New Zealand partner with illuminate Education?

illuminate Education recognises the changing business landscape and aims to support and equip students with the important skills they will need in their future careers. Chartered Accountants ANZ will be involved in facilitating each event through providing CA speakers who will share their experience and knowledge through presentations, assessment and feedback. This will give students a chance to gain an insight into a career in business as a Chartered Accountant and into the many different exciting opportunities the designation offers.

What is illuminate Education?

illuminate Education is an enterprise that is entirely focused on activating the next generation of confident, creative and capable young people that they have the potential to be, and do that through delivering entrepreneurial, inspiring and meaningful education programs where students solve the problems of their community and the world. All of our programs are focused around developing core skills that help students prepare for the changing world they are entering which we've organised into four distinct groups of capacities that young people should have;

- Communication – Speaking, Writing & Presentation Skills
- Understanding – Critical Thinking, Inquiry, Digital & Financial Literacy
- Solving Problems – Creativity, Problem Solving & Reflection
- Working Smart – Collaboration, Organisation & Perseverance

All of our education experiences are practical to ensure students can authentically experience these skills and abilities to grow in their confidence, as well as providing an opportunity to showcase their ability to family members as well as the wider community. Founded in 2010 by Adam Mostogl, illuminate Education is a multi-award-winning business that has inspired over 8500 students across Australia having been impacted by our programs so far, along with international recognition for our work, with the young people and communities we work with remaining our priority.

Any Further Questions?

All questions and comments can be sent to Jessi at illuminate Education (jessi@illuminateeducation.com.au).

Schedule of the Challenge

For Monday, Tuesday and Friday, the illuminate:nextgen Challenge runs between 9:30 am and 2:30 pm, with activities scheduled to support student learning as well as giving students enough time to complete the tasks allocated. For Wednesday & Thursday, the schedule is mapped to a similar timeframe however sessions are shared with students early so they can be viewed and completed around the school schedule.

Note: The awards ceremony is typically held on Friday evening from 5:30pm.

Day	Sessions / Workshops / Presentations	Submissions / Deliverables
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome to the Challenge - Introduction to the Topic - Brainstorming Session - Overview of the Week - Making Teams Succeed - Research and the Project Background 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Problem Frame
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Briefing Session - Panel Session - Introduction to Financial Accounting - Public Speaking Workshop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Business Case Canvas - 30 second elevator pitch
Wednesday (In-School)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Briefing Session - Marketing and Storytelling - Formal Writing and the Business Case 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft Business Case and Financial Tables - Project Background
Thursday (In-School)	<i>N/A as the day is dedicated to completing submissions.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completed Business Case and Financial Tables - Completed Marketing Strategy - Powerpoint for Pitch Deck Presentation
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Briefing Session - Pitch Deck Presentations - Timed 45min Challenge (Pressure Cooker) - Demonstration Hall Set Up and Judging - Review Session - Public Viewing of Demonstration Hall (Afternoon / Evening) - Award Presentation Ceremony 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pitch Deck Presentation - Submissions as per the Pressure Cooker - Demonstration Hall

What Others Say About The Challenge

*"In this rapidly changing world with the rise of emerging economies and onset of digital disruption, programs like the illuminate:nextgen Challenge are absolutely critical to regional communities. **Rather than seeing change as a threat, illuminate Education opens the eyes of our young people to the opportunities that change presents.**"*

- Tim Watson, General Manager, Dorset Council

*"I have enrolled students in the illuminate:nextgen Challenge for many years. illuminate Education excels at motivating young people to become the independent learning, self-directed adults that our nation so desperately needs. **Their provision of real-world learning is second to none and their programs are still talked about by students many years after they've left school.** Best of all illuminate Education's programs target those cross-curricular priorities that are so difficult to address in the day-to-day classroom."* - Bob Ashby, Teacher, Sheffield School, Tasmania

*"Technical capabilities are the necessary, but not sufficient attributes for people hired into my organisation. **The best candidates complement their technical capability with emotional intelligence along with the skills taught by illuminate Education.** Working at today's speed of business requires employees to bring more to the workplace. Creativity, a willingness to collaborate, natural curiosity and the ability to contribute to effective teamwork are key characteristics of tomorrow's high performing leaders" - Mike Faulkner, Managing Director (Australia & New Zealand), Verizon Enterprise Solutions*

*"The illuminate:nextgen Challenge pushes students to extend themselves in a positive, supportive setting. It helps student to develop the real-world skills necessary for any workplace, and exposes them to study and career options. **The program helps students to unlock their full potential and discover their future.**" - Brendan Taig, Careers Practitioner, Suzanne Cory High School, Werribee, Victoria*

*"The illuminate:nextgen challenge was, as described by one of our students at our school's end of year awards ceremony, a life changing experience for our Year 10 students. The week created such a positive vibe amongst those doing the challenge and indeed, throughout the entire school, and students from all years seemed to be taking an active interest. It certainly allowed our students to develop all of those '21st century skills' that everyone is talking about - self-directed learning, leadership, team-work, stress management, time prioritisation, meeting deadlines, innovative and creative thinking and public-speaking, with that all important exposure to how a business works. **I really do believe that this challenge, and the skills that were developed by students, will have a lasting impact on them, not only for success in Year 11 and 12, but also post-school education and in their working lives.** A huge thank-you must go to the illuminate Education team and to our local business people that so willingly volunteered their time to be a part of the program. What invaluable mentors our students have had!" - Dale Massie, HSIE Teacher, Terrigal High School, NSW*

*"The value of illuminate Education cannot be underestimated. We've received so much positive feedback about our illuminate:nextgen Challenge business workshops that we've expanded our program with them- in order to reach out to even more students than we can ever bring to campus. **One of the most common things we hear from our students is the illuminate:nextgen Challenge experience has been life-changing for them. In addition to opening their eyes to the basics of running a business, the illuminate:nextgen Challenge program inspires them about the opportunities of a business education, and the life-long skills that it can give them.**" - Alex Kho, Marketing & Development Manager, Faculty of Business and Law, Deakin University*

*"The future of our world is in these young people's hands and this program allows the students to have an opportunity to think outside the box and have input into changes that they would one day like to witness. **The 21st century skills that this program offers can't necessarily be taught in a classroom.** It is a great kick-start to their career pathway." - Elyce Bates, Careers Advisor, Terrigal High School, NSW*

*"The nextgen Challenge has evolved and grown over past few years. It has become one of Riverside High Schools priorities as an educational activity outside the normal curriculum. The students are given an amazing opportunity to experience the world of work in a truly invigorating and educational environment. All aspects of the week-long challenge are well planned and relevant to the challenge. **All students should experience something like this in their journey through high school.**" - Amanda Claridge, Assistant Principal, Riverside High School, TAS*

"A student knocked on my door the day after the illuminate:nextgen Challenge and explained how it was the best week of her school life and can she do it again!" - Stacey Exner, Executive Principal, Dubbo College, NSW