

## Scitech Expands its STEM Impact with New Partnerships

Scitech has forged a new partnership with Kleenheat and renewed its partnership with Mitsui Iron Ore Development, enabling the delivery of two new science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) professional development programs for Western Australian teachers.

The Kwinana STEM Network presented by Kleenheat will kick off in 2020, the first year in a three-year agreement targeting primary school teachers in the Kwinana and Rockingham areas. Scitech's professional development consultants will support and mentor teachers within a network of schools to collaboratively develop classroom projects focused on integrated STEM learning.

Mitsui Iron Ore Development have renewed its partnership with Scitech for a further one-year term to deliver the Future Computing Program. One Pilbara primary school will be provided with a suite of fully funded Raspberry Pi educational computing kits, to enable next-level student and teacher engagement in Digital Technologies, ICT capability and physical computing.

Kalien Selby, Scitech Chief Executive Officer said, "Our industry partnerships are extremely important as they enable us to deliver quality and contemporary STEM engagement programs that upskill our teachers and inspire our students. We are proud to be working closely with Kleenheat and Mitsui Iron Ore Development as they share our commitment to developing the capability of Western Australian teachers as a sustainable approach to long term change and improvement."

Mark Gadsby, Kleenheat General Manager said, "In addition to the professional development for teachers, schools involved in the Kwinana STEM Network will benefit from classroom visits by Kleenheat STEM professionals who will provide insights into STEM-related careers and the opportunities of the STEM-enabled workforce."

One school in the Kwinana cohort will also be selected to host a STEM Challenge Day, an event created and facilitated by Scitech. All year five and six students involved in the program will devise solutions to a real-world challenge set by Kleenheat and the Network teachers.

Schools confirmed to take part in the Kwinana STEM Network in 2020 are Baldivis Primary School, Bertram Primary School, Rockingham Beach Primary School, Safety Bay Primary School, Bungaree Primary School, Calista Primary School and Peter Carnley Anglican Community School.

The Future Computing Program is the logical evolution of the Intensive Robotics Program, a popular initiative delivered by Scitech and Mitsui Iron Ore Development since 2014. Six years later, with educational robotics firmly embedded in Pilbara schools, it is time to take Digital Technology education in the region to the next level.

The Future Computing Program will focus on years four to six to comprehensively address the Technologies learning area and ICT capability of the Western Australian curriculum. Multiple learning areas will also be targeted through the program, including General Capabilities and Cross-curriculum Priorities.

Dampier Primary School will be the first school to take part in the new Future Computing Program in the Pilbara region in 2020.