



ADF Future Innovators Award Speaker Notes

- Today the Department of Defence is recognising and celebrating the achievements of students who have caught the eye of the Australian Defence Force as future innovators.
- Our school is one of 2300 Australian schools who have participated in the Australian Defence Force Future Innovators Award program this year, and we are very proud to be awarding <one/two> of our students today.
- This award was introduced to recognise students who have a keen interest and ability in science, technology, engineering or mathematics – better known as STEM – and to encourage these passions long after your schooling days are over.
- If you enjoy problem solving, creating new ideas, building, designing or find yourself questioning why things work the way they do – a career in STEM may just be for you.
- In fact, around 40 per cent of the roles within the Australian Defence Force are STEM related and contribute to our nation in many ways, from assisting after natural disasters, contributing to peace keeping, undertaking border surveillance and protection duties.
- Fascinating roles like Marine Engineering, Electronic Warfare and Aeronautical Engineering and so many others, are on offer in the Navy, Army and Air Force.
- Many of the STEM skills you are learning now, here at school, are critical skills that assist Defence's work, including reasoning, problem solving, analysis and critical thinking, and Defence is always looking for problem solvers to join their team and tackle the challenges of the future.
- This short video introduces you to members of the Australian Defence Force who like many of you, are passionate about STEM and are making a big difference. Here is where studying science, technology, engineering and mathematics can lead to:
 - [PLAY VIDEO] <https://youtu.be/tXXcF7Mxv7g>.
- Like these Australian Defence Force members, our award winner today has demonstrated an aptitude for STEM and an eagerness to innovate.
- On behalf of the Australian Defence Force, I would now like to congratulate [INSERT NAME] as the winner of the prestigious ADF Future Innovators Award.

