

MONASH TECH SCHOOL

Strategic Plan 2022-2025

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Design your future now

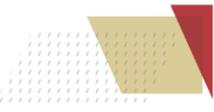
Reviewed by Monash Tech School Staff on 25 November 2021

Goals and Targets endorsed by the Monash Tech School Steering Committee on 26 November 2021

Goals and Targets endorsed by Mark Flack (Acting Area Executive Director) on 29 November 2021

Budget, Workforce and Targets endorsed by John Monash Science School Council on 30 November 2021

Submitted by Neil Carmona-Vickery (Tech School Director) on 7 December 2021



Strategic Overview

Tech School Vision

Monash Tech School will provide real world experiences through hands-on personalised deep learning programs which complement and build on existing STEM curricula in the Secondary Education Sector.

Our motto - **Design your future now** - encapsulates this purpose and the influence we aspire to develop across our strategic partnerships.

Our focus on designing holistic learning programs that matter now and in the future means we are trusted to help change the future of learners for the better. We do this through design and innovation across Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) and its deep integration with the Humanities, Arts, and Social Science (HASS).

This is how we support the Department of Education's vision:

"Together we give every Victorian the best learning and development experience, making our state a smarter, fairer and more prosperous place."

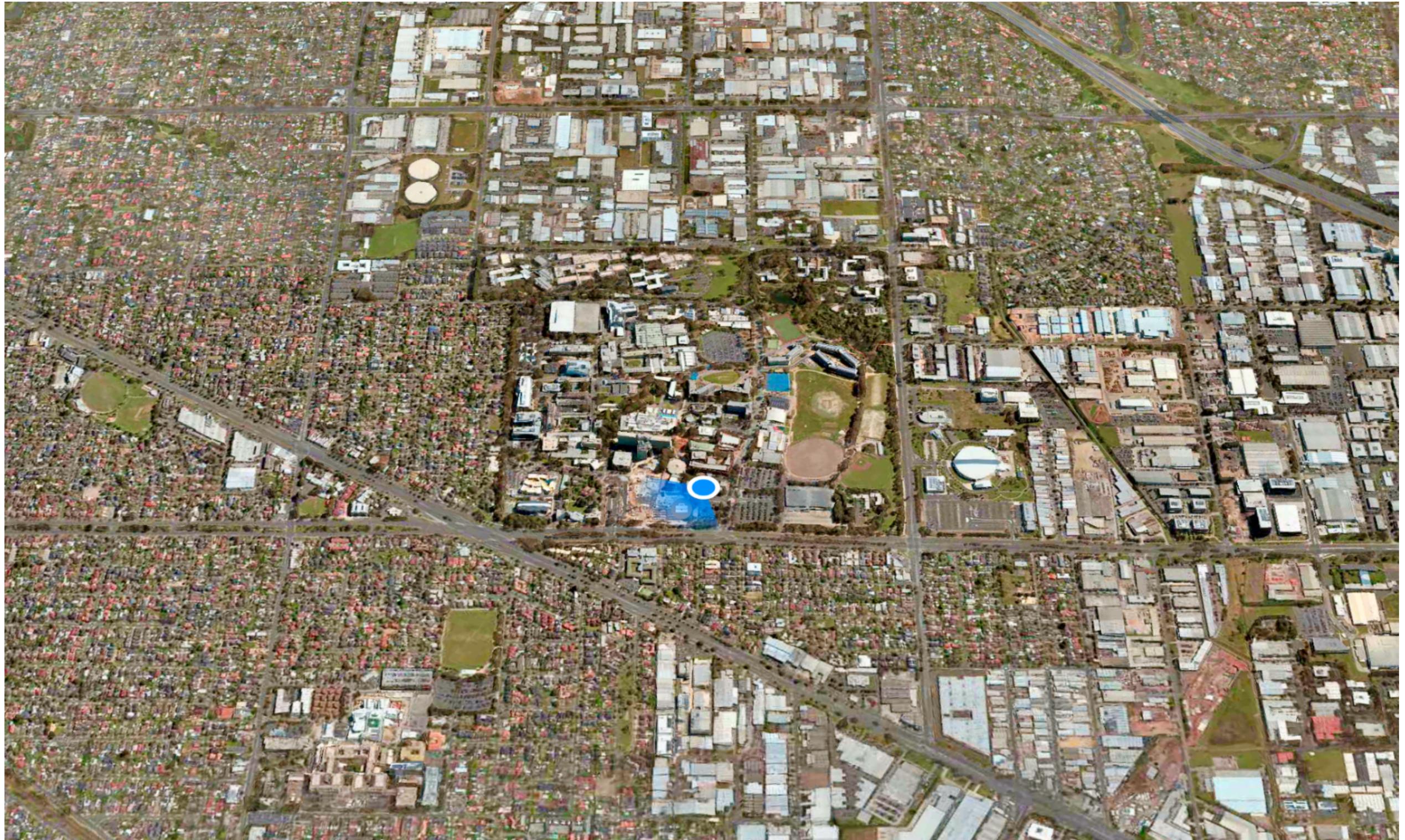
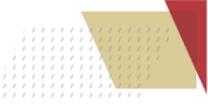
Tech School Values

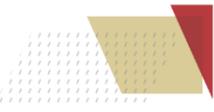
Our values speak to who we are, how we think, the work that we do, how we work together, and the impact we want to have on our community, society, and the planet.

- **Future focus**
- **Creative confidence**
- **Inspire innovation**
- **Committed collaboration**
- **Positive presence**
- **Social sustainability**

These values align with Monash University's values of Discovering, Learning, Purposeful, Collaborative, Honest, and Fair.

As public sector employees, our staff also uphold the Victorian public sector values of Integrity, Responsiveness, Impartiality, Accountability, Respect, Leadership, and a commitment to Human Rights.





Contexts

Our City – City of Monash

Monash Tech School is located in the City of Monash. Home to 204,936 people, the City of Monash has 22,707 businesses that employ 144,478 people. It is Victoria's leading employment hub outside the Melbourne CBD. As a region, it generated \$18.28 billion (NIEIR 2020) and represented 3.95% of the Victorian Economy. (Source: id.com.au [Community Profile](#))

The primary industries are:

- Health Care and Social Assistance
- Manufacturing
- Construction
- Education and Training, and
- Professional, Scientific and Technical Services.

The City of Monash's workforce and infrastructure profile provides a strong base for a post-pandemic recovery. A higher proportion of people in the City of Monash have a Bachelor or Higher degree compared to Greater Melbourne. Its [Science and Technology Precinct](#) contains significant scientific and research facilities capable of supporting the region's diverse industry mix.

Some of these facilities are:

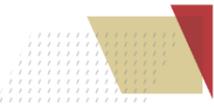
- ANSTO – Australian Synchrotron
- CSIRO
- Eastern Innovation
- MCN
- Monash Health Precinct
- Monash University, Clayton Campus, and
- Victorian Heart Hospital.

Monash Tech School's contribution to the City of Monash has been felt through events such as:

- Ashwood Family Fun Day 2017 – Targeted at a local neighbourhood.
- Clayton Festival 2018 – Targeted at young children.
- Finding Purpose for Seniors 2019 – Targeted at retirees.
- Monash Mini Maker Faire 2019 – Multi-age family event, with industry support.
- Monash Precinct Presentation 2020 – Fostering industry connections.

These events supported the [Healthy and Resilient Monash: Integrated Plan](#) by helping engage the community, increasing their participation in STEM, building resilient relationships, and impacting positively on health. In particular, the Monash Mini Maker Faire encouraged the community and industry to come together in what was the largest STEM family event in Australia in 2019. The event was co-developed with the City of Monash and hosted by Monash University.

The Economic Development Unit at the City of Monash will seek to embark on developing its new Economic Development Strategy from June 2022. This co-design process will draw on key stakeholders from throughout the City – including Monash Tech School. This is an opportunity to



strengthen a key strategic partnership and co-design a series of targeted actions that will help the local economy, engage the community, and build Monash Tech School's profile.

These actions may draw on Monash Tech School to support:

- Local programs that improve employability through the development of STEM skills that target disadvantaged groups.
- Collaboration between local leaders through the coordination of events and workshops.

Our Host – Monash University

Monash Tech School is hosted by Monash University on the Clayton Campus. Monash University is Australia's largest university and the largest employer in the Monash Precinct. It is critical to unlocking the value of the precinct. Beyond its regional impact, as part of its [Strategic Plan 2021-2030](#), it aspires to meet the major global challenges of the next decade by focussing research and education efforts on addressing:

- Climate change
- Geopolitical insecurity, and
- Healthy communities.

While the pandemic has had immediate effects on the operation of the University, it is more tightly focussed on this future direction and remains committed to leveraging excellence in research, education, and enterprise to these ends.

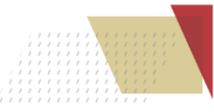
Departments and Faculties at Monash University are finding new ways and means to partner that aligns our mutual foci and interests. These opportunities include supporting open days, involving student clubs, internships, work integrated learning placements, co-designing industry immersion days, and providing subject matter guest speakers.

Our School Partners

Approximately 12,000 secondary students and 1,000 teachers from 13 School Partners have access to Monash Tech School. Among these partner schools are three special needs schools, one specialist science and mathematics school, and a hospital school.

Monash Tech School works to include all of its school partners when programming engagements each year. More recently it has sought to provide a more flexible, accessible, and dynamic suite of programs for students and teachers. This results in offerings across three modes – online, onsite, and offsite. Each year the programming is adapted to the needs of its partners, and it seeks to refresh the line-up of programs so that new design thinking tools, technologies, industry sectors, capabilities and skills are incorporated into the program offerings.

Monash Tech School is a key support partner in the realisation of the [Oakleigh Education Plan](#). South Oakleigh College was a founding partner school and their students and staff are supportive of the multi-day programs, industry immersions, and teacher professional learning opportunities that have been offered.



Governance

The Strategic direction and governance of Monash Tech School is the responsibility of the [Monash Tech School Steering Committee](#). This Committee comprises representatives from all key stakeholders:

- North Eastern Victoria Region – Department of Education and Training
- Monash University
- John Monash Science School
- School Partners
- City of Monash

The Monash Tech School Program Sub-Committee is responsible for considering proposals for new programs and informing the design of future programs. They advise on how schools will support the professional development of staff in connection with the Tech School, and monitor the delivery of programs in alignment with the school curriculum.

Financial and human resources are co-administered with John Monash Science School. Monthly and yearly planning and reporting cycles control and monitor the Tech School's operating funds and human resource structures.

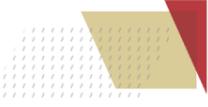
The Tech Schools and Digital Learning Branch provide a Tech Schools Liaison for Monash Tech School.

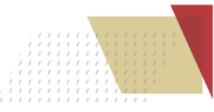
Challenges

Monash Tech School conducted its School Review through the Learning Advisory Panel Process in Term 2, 2021.

Surfacing from this work and the interviews held with partner schools, Monash Tech School's primary challenges for the 2022–25 period are four-fold:

1. How might MTS continue to be at the cutting-edge of STEM education and offer outstanding real world experiences to its students?
2. How might MTS scale its operations, solidify its reputation across the Monash precinct, and grow its impact across the State of Victoria?
3. How might MTS successfully leverage its school partnerships to build teacher capacity and confidence in the delivery of STEM Learning?
4. How might MTS forge alignment between partner schools, industry, and the community in a post-pandemic period?





Intent, Rationale and Focus

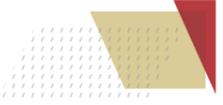
Monash Tech School's intent is to:

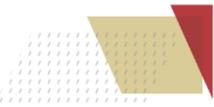
- Equip students with transferable skills for jobs of the future.
- Build teacher capacity and confidence in the delivery of STEM learning.
- Use the most up-to-date technology to engage with students.
- Link education to growing industries.

This intent brings rise to the following prompts:

1. How might we continue to provide partner school students with access to cutting-edge STEM technologies and opportunities from the primary and growing industries across the City of Monash, and within Monash University's platforms and leading faculties during the post-pandemic recovery period?
2. How might we develop and enhance teacher capabilities in STEM across the partnership and encourage them to share their expertise with others?
3. How might we better engage with industry to enrich the Tech School experience so that partner school students can understand the benefits of undertaking work-integrated learning and pursuing their interests in STEM?
4. How might Monash Tech School pursue dynamic and innovative partnerships and collaborations with other STEM Centres in Victoria, Australia, and internationally?

In response, Monash Tech School will focus on improving its connections across the City of Monash, and the quality of its partnerships with the community, industry, and education sectors.





Responsibility-Accountability Summary

Goals	Key Improvement Strategy	Responsibility (R) - Accountability (A)		
		Monash Tech School	Partner Schools	Precinct Partners
Engage and inspire students in STEM	Develop quality STEM learning opportunities that support student learning.	R A	R	R
	Widen and diversify student engagement in STEM from priority cohorts.	R A	R	R
Support teaching in schools and the classroom	Build teachers' capacity to enliven teaching, deliver Tech School programs, use design thinking tools, take up new STEM-skills, and integrate new technology.	R	R A	R
	Provide targeted professional learning that builds teachers' ability to adopt and lead new practices in schools.	R A	R A	R
Link education and industry	Further build program links with growth industries, study, career, and employment pathways.	R A	R	R
	Enhance engagements with the local community and increase the visibility of Monash Tech School.	R A	R	R
	Establish a Strengthening Excellence STEM Reference Group.	R A		R A