

**ENERGY CLUB WA**  
**NEXT GENERATION**  
**SCHOOLS PROGRAM**

Connecting the Next Generation to  
careers in the energy industry.

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**End of Year Report**  
**October - December 2025**

## NEXT GENERATION SCHOOLS PROGRAM REPORT

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Next Generation Schools Program continued its strong legacy in 2025, delivering a comprehensive, industry-connected education experience to secondary students across Western Australia. Facilitated by Energy Club WA since 1991, the program marked its 34th year of operation and its most expansive reach to date, engaging more than 1,800 students from 28 schools across metropolitan Perth, the Midwest, and regional WA.

Through structured in-school visits, industry mentoring, site excursions, and two major Student Expo Days, the program successfully introduced students in Years 8–10 to the energy industry, its evolving role in society, and the diverse career pathways available. Feedback from both teachers and students confirms the program's strong educational value, high engagement, and positive impact on student awareness of future opportunities.

### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Next Generation Schools Program is designed to:

- Introduce students to the role of energy in society
- Improve understanding of the energy transition and future energy mix
- Highlight the breadth of careers available within the energy sector
- Provide authentic engagement with industry professionals
- Support schools with curriculum-aligned, real-world learning

The program is delivered through four core mentor visits, with an optional fifth session, followed by a Student Expo Day that brings together industry, education providers, and students in an immersive learning environment.



## PARTICIPATION & REACH

Student and School Participation:



1,800+  
Students  
participated in 2025



Years 8 to 10  
Students



28 Schools  
across Western  
Australia

A key strategic priority remains the expansion into regional and Midwest schools. In 2025, participation spanned:

- Perth metropolitan schools
- Five Midwest schools
- Regional centres from Karratha (1,800 km north of Perth) to Busselton (400 km south)

This statewide footprint reflects the program's commitment to equitable access to industry exposure and career education.



## PROGRAM DELIVERY

### MENTOR VISITS

Each participating school received a structured series of visits delivered by industry mentors:

#### VISIT ONE – INTRODUCTION TO THE ENERGY INDUSTRY

Students explored the role of energy in everyday life and society, supported by interactive activities introducing different energy sources.

#### VISIT TWO – THE FUTURE OF ENERGY

Focused on renewables, the future energy mix, and the benefits and challenges of various energy sources, with strong emphasis on student interaction.

#### VISIT THREE – THE PROJECT LIFECYCLE AND CAREERS

Students learned about the energy project lifecycle and the diverse roles required at each stage. Activities encouraged students to reflect on their own ambitions and interests.

#### VISIT FOUR – MENTOR CAREER PANEL

Three to four industry professionals shared their career journeys in a rotating, speed-networking-style format, creating inclusive and engaging discussions.

#### OPTIONAL VISIT FIVE – WOODSIDE ENERGY TRANSITION GAME

An interactive simulation taking students from today to 2050, highlighting the complexity of global energy supply and the transition to lower-carbon solutions.

### SITE VISITS AND EXCURSIONS

Industry excursions continued to add significant value to the program.

Thanks to program partners such as ERGT, schools accessed guided facility tours and hands-on experiences including:

- Confined space escape scenarios
- Fire safety training demonstrations
- Robotics and ROV operations

Regional schools also benefited from visits to operational and decommissioned project sites, providing local context and insight into industries operating within their communities.



## INFORMATION SUNDOWNER

An Information Sundowner was held on 27 February 2025, bringing together teachers, mentors, sponsors, and Energy Club WA representatives. The event supported program alignment by:

- Introducing mentors to their allocated schools
- Clarifying expectations and delivery structure
- Providing an open forum for questions and collaboration

## STUDENT EXPO DAYS

### MIDWEST STUDENT CAREERS EXPO – DONGARA

Held on 6 November 2025 at the Irwin Recreation Centre, the Midwest Expo welcomed approximately 150 students from Carnamah DHS, Dongara DHS, Geraldton Grammar School, WA College of Agriculture, and Champion Bay SHS.

Students engaged with ten exhibitors showcasing local projects, training pathways, and career opportunities. The event was supported by organisations including Mitsui E&P, Strike Energy, Qetra, Central Regional TAFE, and regional government partners.

### PERTH STUDENT EXPO DAY – PERTH METROPOLITAN

The Perth Student Expo Day marked a major highlight of the 2025 program, welcoming over 450 students from 17 schools.

Students explored more than 20 interactive exhibits, including:

- Robotics and ROV demonstrations
- Safety technologies and PPE
- Virtual reality simulations
- Carbon capture and storage concepts
- Renewable and future energy technologies

The Expo provided students with direct interaction with industry professionals and tertiary education providers, reinforcing classroom learning through hands-on discovery.

### Winning schools for 2025 were:

*First: Kinross Senior High School*

*Second: Methodist Ladies' College*

*Third: Carine Senior High School*



## PROGRAM MENTORS

The program was supported by approximately 120 industry mentors, with more than 75 Lead Mentors volunteering significant time across the year. Their commitment remains the foundation of the program's success, enabling authentic, real-world engagement for students.

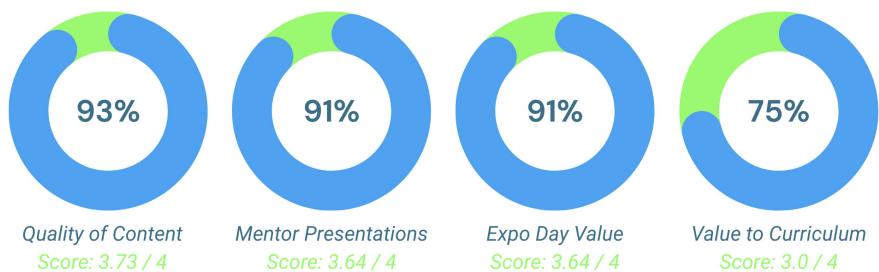
Energy Club WA extends sincere thanks to all mentors who contributed their expertise, time, and enthusiasm throughout 2025.



## FEEDBACK AND OUTCOMES

### TEACHER FEEDBACK

Survey results indicated a high level of satisfaction from participating teachers. Notably, 100% of responding teachers expressed interest in future program activities, including excursions and the Energy Transition Game.



### STUDENT FEEDBACK

Student feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with no negative (1–2 star) responses recorded.

These results confirm strong student engagement and enjoyment across all delivery formats.



## SPONSORSHIP AND INDUSTRY SUPPORT

The Next Generation Schools Program relies on strong industry participation through sponsorship, mentoring, exhibiting, and volunteering.

In 2025, the program benefited from the support of numerous organisations who contributed funding, expertise, prizes, and in-kind resources.

### Industry-Sponsored Prizes:

**First Place Prize:** Helicopter Underwater Escape Training (HUET) thanks to ERGT

**Second Place Prize:** Rope Access Training thanks to Vertech

**Third Place Prize:** Scitech Membership

## LOOKING AHEAD TO 2026

With the success of the 2025 program, the Next Generation Committee is currently reviewing program outcomes and developing a refreshed strategy for 2026.

This includes:

- Continued regional expansion
- Enhanced industry partnerships
- Ongoing curriculum alignment
- New interactive and experiential learning opportunities

Energy Club WA looks forward to building on this momentum and continuing to inspire the next generation of energy professionals.



## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Energy Club WA extends its sincere thanks to all our participating schools and teachers, industry mentors and volunteers, sponsors and exhibitors, as well as our program partners and supporters.

Your collective contribution ensures the ongoing success and growth of the Next Generation Schools Program.

For further information or to become involved, please contact Energy Club WA; Next Generation Schools Program  
Email: [education@energyclubwa.org.au](mailto:education@energyclubwa.org.au) Phone: 08 9226 3779.





## PROGRAM SPONSORS

The support of our 2025 program sponsors is vital in allowing us to engage with 1,700 West Australian students around the state. We offer our sincerest thanks for allowing us to inform and prepare the Next Generation of Energy Industry professionals.

## BECOME A SPONSOR

This program relies on the participation from industry mentors and organisation sponsorship to ensure we can continue to inspire the "next generation." This is an incredible way to align your organisation with an initiative that engages the wider community and our future workforce, as well as financially supporting the program.

The Next Generation Schools Program provides a rewarding opportunity for your organisation and your staff to give back to the industry you work in. Engage with the 'Next Generation' of aspiring students and ignite their passion for the energy industry.

Thank you to our 2025 Program Sponsors



Government of Western Australia  
 Department of Communities

