

Do you want to get involved in something that you will remember for the rest of your life?

Founded in 1963 by two physics researchers from University College Dublin, Rev. Dr. Tom Burke and Dr. Tony Scott, the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition is much more than a competition; it is an unforgettable experience for all the students who take part. Today, the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition is organised by BT, one of world's leading communications companies.

The exhibition, which takes place from **8th to 11th January 2020** at the RDS in Dublin, is the final stage in the competition and is open to all second level students from Ireland, both north and south.

As well as the 550 student projects on display, there are four exhibition halls filled with exciting and innovative science and technology-based exhibits and entertainment, making it a thrilling event for those who enter and for general visitors too.

Check out the highlights of BTYSTE 2019 https://youtu.be/F-0NMRHkVh0

How to get involved

http://btyoungscientist.com/how-to-get-involved/

The competition is open to second-level students from Ireland, north and south, who are aged between **12 and 19 years on 31st October 2019**.



Aged between 12-19 on 31st Oct. 2019



*A group is defined as comprising of no more than three people from the same school and the same age grouping. If a group is made up of students in different years, these students should be entered into the oldest member's group i.e. If a student in 4th year/Year 12 partners up with a student in 5th year/Year 13 this group should be entered into the Senior category.

JUNIOR

ROI 1st & 2nd year NI Year 8, 9 & 10

INTERMEDIATE

3rd & 4th year Year 11 & 12

SENIOR

5th & 6th year Year 13 & 14

The category choice

Students can enter projects in one of four categories.

(check the website for full definitions as an incorrect choice may result in a project not being accepted):



Technology

e.g. communications, electronic systems, robotics, computing, control technology, applications of technology, biotechnology, automation.



Biological & Ecological Sciences

e.g. agriculture, anatomy, biochemistry, biotechnology, ecology, horticulture, physiology, medical science, veterinary science.



Social & Behavioural Sciences

e.g. economic, geographical, psychological or sociological studies of human behaviour, nutrition, social anthropology, political science.



Chemical, Physical & Mathematical Sciences

e.g. chemistry, physics, mathematics, applied mathematics, geology, engineering, computer programming, meteorology, astronomy.

The Accommodation Grant Scheme

BT provides a grant scheme under which schools can apply for assistance towards accommodation costs if they have to stay overnight in Dublin. This grant scheme underlines BT's commitment to making the exhibition accessible to schools from all parts of Ireland. A school may receive up to €1,500/£1,350 through this scheme, if it meets certain criteria.



Visit the website for further information.

Did you know?

3,773 students from **374 schools** across the island of Ireland competed for the coveted title 'BT Young Scientist & Technologist of the Year 2019.'

2020 will see the exhibition celebrate its **56th year**, making it one of the longest standing exhibitions of its kind in the world, and **BT's 20th year** as sponsor and organiser.

To date, Irish students have taken the top honours 14 times at the European Union Science Contest and have scooped over 20 top awards in the Science and Engineering Fair in the USA.

Getting started

If you're wondering why you should get involved, here are just some of the benefits:



Getting the chance to represent your school/town at the exhibition is a real buzz and an experience you will never forget. Plus, if you're lucky enough to win, you'll go on to represent the competition at the European Union Contest for Young Scientists.



Although a love for science and technology lies at the heart of all the entries, we're sure everyone also has an eye on the prizes! There are over 140 prizes to be won, including the prestigious BT Young Scientist & Technologist of the Year Award which comes with a cash prize of $\in 7,500 / £6,750$.



It's a brilliant extra-curricular activity to put on your CV or university application. It shows a real passion for science, maths, an ability to think for yourself along with time management and communication skills.



The rewards aren't just confined to entrants. Teachers will also see real, long-term benefits by getting involved. It's a great way to get pupils fired up about the vital subjects of science and technology and a brilliant way to showcase your school's scientific pedigree. It also helps to inject a fun element into traditionally 'serious' subjects like science and maths.



Did you know, by participating you could receive a Gaisce, Presidents Award or a Duke of Edinburgh Award more details on our website.

Where to get your idea

Ideas come from all around us and the best ones are often the simplest. Is there something that really annoys you about everyday life? Have you spotted a problem that needs a solution or could you do a project related to one of your hobbies?



Initial research

Visit your local library or use the internet to learn everything you can about your chosen subject.



Organise

Organise everything you have learned about your topic. At this point you should narrow your hypothesis by focusing on a particular idea.



Make a timetable

Choose a topic that not only interests you, but that can also be done in the amount of time you have. And remember to leave time to write your report and put together an exhibit.

Prepare a one page proposal

When you have decided on a project, carried out some research and trial experiments, it is time to write your one page proposal. This helps you not only to organise your thoughts but also to prepare the case for your project. The proposal should be no more than 500 words.





Driven by innovation, delivered by BT

The BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition 2020 is proudly sponsored and supported by;













N.B. The submission of a project does not automatically mean that the project will qualify for the exhibition in the RDS in January 2020.

How to Enter

Entries must be submitted online, in either English or Irish, by

Tuesday 24th September 2019 at www.btyoungscientist.com

Your application must include:

- Entry Form for Projects
- Project Details Form
- Teacher Assessment Form
- One Page Proposal outlining your project

Entry fee €20 / £18

What happens next?

The selection process

Your One Page Proposal is considered by a panel of screening judges who carefully consider every project. You will be told whether your project has qualified or not qualified in November 2019.

QUALIFIED

QUERIED

NOT QUALIFIED





BT's 11th Business Bootcamp Programme for students

A number of the exhibiting intermediate and senior students from the 2020 BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition will be invited to take part in a BT Young Scientist Business Bootcamp in February/ March next year where they will experience the world of technology commercialisation and entrepreneurship.

BT Young Scientist Business Bootcamp in association with UCD Innovate















Closing date for students

24th September 2019 by midnight

Closing date for teachers

25th September 2019 by 5pm

BTYSTE 2020

8th – 11th January 2020

Need some help with your project?

Check out our website for more information www.btyoungscientist.com

Tips from the judges

The following advice and tips from our panel of judges might make your job a little easier when writing your project.

- 1 Start to work on your project as soon as you can. Some projects take a lot longer to complete than you thought when you started.
- 2 For you to succeed, you have to be interested and involved from the word 'go'.
- Don't leave things to chance or guesswork. Research your project well. That way you'll be able to deal comfortably with any queries that come your way, whether from the judges or members of the public.
- Keep a detailed Project Diary of your work. We all forget things and this may help you answer judging queries at a later date.
- Accurate use of scientific methods counts for a lot when judging begins, so take your time and make sure that all your facts and figures are correct. Don't be afraid to ask your teacher if you are unsure about something.
- 6 The project title should accurately reflect the aims of the project.
- 7 Be original. Make your project stand out from the crowd by giving good solid reasons for your choice of subject.



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In January 2020, BT will celebrate 20 years as proud organiser and sponsor of the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition. The essence of the exhibition is the spirit and ingenuity demonstrated by the students who participate. As a leader in innovation and technology, BT is delighted to cultivate and nurture the talent of our future scientists and engineers both through the exhibition itself and through the BT Young Scientist Business Bootcamp about which you will read more later. We also are delighted that over 200 of our own people volunteer to visit schools to talk about the exhibition or work at the event itself in the RDS each January.