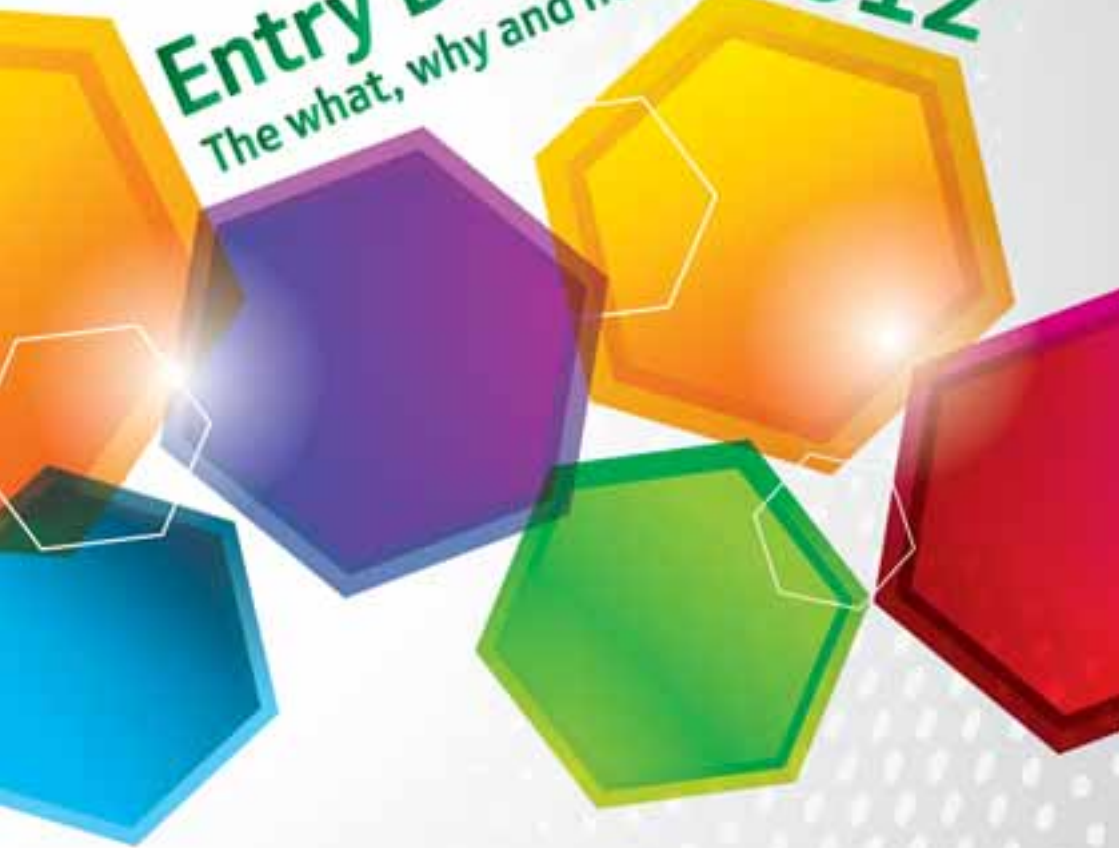




Bringing it all together

Entry Details 2012

The what, why and how.



BT YOUNG SCIENTIST & TECHNOLOGY Exhibition

Driven by Innovation, delivered by



Where smart minds meet

The What...

Do you want to get involved in something that you will remember for the rest of your life? Heading into its 48th year the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition is much more than a competition; it is an unforgettable experience for all the students who take part.

The exhibition itself is the final stage in the competition which is open to all second level students from Ireland, both North and South.

As well as the 520 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.

The History

In 1963 two physics' researchers from the University College Dublin, Rev. Dr. Tom Burke (deceased) and Dr. Tony Scott, came across the concept of 'Science Fairs' while conducting research in New Mexico, America. The pair decided that this type of hands-on science was something that students in Ireland could benefit from, by taking science outside the four walls of

the classroom and showing that it is all around them. And so the Young Scientist Exhibition was born.

BT

BT have been the proud sponsor and organiser of the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition for 12 years. 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 thrilled to help cultivate and nurture the talent of our future scientists and engineers through the exhibition itself and also the BT Business of Science and Technology Programme which you will read more about later. We also are delighted that 150 of our own people volunteer to visit schools to talk about the exhibition or work at the event itself in the RDS each January.

The BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition 2012 is supported by:



Why get involved

You're reading this, so you must have some interest in the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition 2012. That's a good start. But if you're wondering why you should get involved, here are just some of the benefits:

- **It's a brilliant bit of extra-curricular activity to put on your CV or application form for University. It shows a real passion for science and maths and an ability to think for yourself.**
- **Getting the chance to represent your school / town at the exhibition is a real buzz and an experience you will never forget.**
- **And 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!**
- **With over 100 prizes to be won, including the prestigious BT Young Scientist of the Year Award and the chance to represent Ireland at the European Union Contest for Young Scientists.**

And the rewards aren't just confined to entrants. Teachers will 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 put the fun back into subjects which are viewed by some as a bit 'dry'.

But don't just take our word for it

Teachers and pupils leave the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition enthused and invigorated. Here are a few quotes from some people who were involved in previous events.

Hannah Eastwood - UK Young Scientist of the Year 2011 said "After competing in BT Young Scientist & Technology exhibition in 2010 and being awarded runner-up to the overall winner, I then entered Young Innovators in Belfast. Winning "Young Innovators" in Belfast back in 2010 I was ecstatic about competing in London. I felt truly privileged to represent N. Ireland in a science competition in England and hoped I could do us proud. For three days "The Big Bang" exhibition buzzed with the atmosphere of excitement and enthusiasm!! The attributes gained from researching, compiling data and presenting are lifelong skills that will be easily applied to all aspects of my studies as a vet. The contacts and friends that you make though doing and presenting the project are among the best parts of doing any competition. Any student who has an idea for a project or is asked by a teacher to do a project I would say "Don't even think twice about it - do it! It will be the best experience of your life!"

"It's hard to put your finger on what makes the BTYS&TE so unique and brilliant. The organisation is superb, the atmosphere is electric, and yes... teenagers talk Science to each other. It's a real Fun Fair of Science. Most of all the students truly come to understand the significance of scientific research for making a positive difference in the real world." Catherine Tattersall, Sutton Park School, Dublin

"I keep returning year after year because I believe that as many of my interested pupils as possible should have the opportunity to participate in the phenomenon that is the BTYS&TE. Although it takes a lot of hard work and commitment to come up with a qualifying project, my pupils find it very interesting and rewarding. They get the opportunity to meet new people of all ages and backgrounds, who have a common interest in science. The experience further stimulates their interest in science and they have FUN!" Ann Blanking, St Mary's College, Derry. Co Londonderry

The How...

Who can enter? The competition is open to second level students from Ireland, North and South, aged between **12 and 19 years on the 31st October 2011.**

You can enter your project as an individual or share the work as a group. A group is made up of no more than three people from the same school and the same age group. To give everybody an equal chance of winning, there are three age groups in which to enter.

Age Groups	Rep of Ireland	Northern Ireland
Junior	1 st & 2 nd Year	Year 8, 9 & 10
Intermediate	3 rd & 4 th Year (junior & transition)	Year 11 & 12
Senior	5 th & 6 th Year	Year 13 & 14

The category choice

Students can enter projects in one of four categories:

- **Biology and Ecological Sciences**
- **Chemical, Physical and Mathematical Sciences**
- **Social and Behavioural Sciences**
- **Technology**

For more information on the categories please check out our website

www.btyoungscientist.com

When?

The BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition takes place from the **10th** to the **14th January 2012**, at the RDS in Dublin.

How to Enter

Entries may be submitted in either English or Irish. You can enter by post or online at www.btyoungscientist.com

A detailed 'One Page Proposal' outlining your project idea, together with completed entry forms and fees, must be submitted by **Monday 3rd October 2011.**

Your application must include:

1. Entry Form for Projects
2. Project Details Form
3. One Page Proposal
4. Entry Fee (€20/£18)
5. Teacher Assessment Form

The entry forms and our postal address can be found online at

www.btyoungscientist.com

The Accommodation Grant Scheme

BT created a grant scheme under which schools can apply for assistance towards accommodation costs incurred 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. Please see our website for more information.

Where to get your idea

To help you decide on your topic, try to get an idea of what you want to study. Ideas might come from hobbies or perhaps problems you see that need solutions. Ideas come from all around us and the best ones are often the simplest; innovate an existing issue by thinking laterally about it. Is there something that really annoys you about everyday life?

Perhaps you've heard about an issue that has touched you in some way. You don't have to set out to change the world, but ideas that have a wide-reaching impact tend to do well in the competition. Your idea could come from a hobby or skill you already have or from your family.

Use any contacts you might have to discuss some possibilities – like your family Doctor, Vet or Dentist. The most important thing to do though, is to discuss your idea with your teacher and parents.

Initial research

Visit your local library or use the Internet to learn everything you can about your chosen topic. Write to or email companies

for specific information. Talk to professionals in the field and consult your teacher and parents. The trick is to research and research over and over again until you are an expert on the topic.

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 also can be finished 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 and 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 word processed, in the region of 500 words and limited to an A4 sheet.

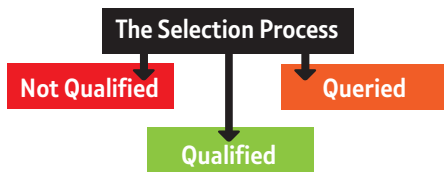
Remember to mention any institutes or people you have contacted for information. This concise description of your thoughts about the project and of the work that you intend to carry out is essential to the screening process. A decision on whether or not a project qualifies for the exhibition in the R.D.S. in January, will be made on the basis of your initial application, so the One Page Proposal is very important.

More information is available online at www.btyoungscientist.com

What happens next?

The selection process

Your One Page Proposal is considered by a panel of screening judges who carefully consider every project. Following their decisions, you will be informed if your project has either qualified or not qualified in November of 2011.



N.B., The submission of a project does not automatically mean that the project will qualify for the exhibition in the RDS in January 2012.

Need some help with your project?

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

Remember...

1. Your project can make a huge difference to you, your school and even the world of science!
2. Applications must be received by the **3rd October 2011**
3. Our website address is www.btyoungscientist.com
4. Our helpline numbers are:
ROI - 1800 924 362
NI - 0800 917 1297
5. e-mail: youngscientist@bt.com
6. We'll be sending you more detailed information in September.

We have covered a lot of information in this booklet and you should now have everything you need to get started on your potential project. So get your thinking cap on. We're looking forward to seeing innovation and creativity from this year's projects. Good luck and enjoy the rest of the year in school and also your summer holidays!

www.btyoungscientist.com

BT Business of Science & Technology Programme

Bridging the gap between Science and Business

Following on from the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition in January 2012, BT will again offer an opportunity for the top Intermediate and Senior category winners to join our entrepreneurship training programme, the BT Business of Science & Technology. This brilliant programme is designed to help our top students understand how to translate scientific ideas into business solutions.

Using a proven teaching methodology involving team-based case studies and classroom tuition, the programme will cover the commercialisation process in a sequence of steps that is easy to

understand, interesting and fun.

Up to 30 students will have this unique opportunity to work and learn together in an expenses-paid residential programme during March 2012. The top performing team and individual participants on the BT Business of Science & Technology programme will be further rewarded with a two week summer school placement at an Irish university in June 2012, with the support of the Higher Education Authority.



www.btyoungscientist.com

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BT



Bringing it all together

BT, Grand Canal Plaza, Upper Grand Canal Street, Dublin 4, Ireland.

Tel: 1800 924 362 Email: youngscientist@bt.com

BT, Riverside Tower, 5 Lanyon Place, Belfast BT1 3BT, Northern Ireland.

Tel: 0800 917 1297 Email: youngscientist@bt.com