techtrails



If you can see her, you can be her.



VR Volunteer Pack

2020 to 2021

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Welcome to the VR Volunteer Pack

We are thrilled that you are considering joining us at an upcoming Techtrails incursion to support our Virtual Reality immersive learning experience as a VR Volunteer. We really appreciate you volunteering your time to inspire the next generation to pursue new, emerging and rapidly developing careers.

This document aims to answer any questions you may have about how the day will run, the commitment required from you, and guidance on how to support the VR Activity.



What is the Techtrails STEM & Future Skills program?

Techtrails is an initiative of Women in Technology WA (WITWA): an in-school incursion designed to encourage high school students to consider careers in science technology, engineering, and innovation. It aims to enlighten and inspire students about the diversity and opportunities available within STEM.

Time Commitment

Our Techtrails events are full day incursion that commence at 8:30am and conclude at approximately 2:30pm. Please note that we are required to work around strict school timetables and as such ask that you allow some flexibility with these timeframes and arrive at least half an hour early to set up. You will also need to devote time to review some Virtual Reality training materials prior to the event.

Time	Techtrails Program Example					
8:30 AM	Speakers arrive to set up					
8:45 AM	Students registration					
9:00 AM	WELCOME					
Group	Α	В	C	D	E	F
9:34 AM				1	4	3
10:04 AM	Keynote			2	1	4
10:34 AM	BREAK					
11:03 AM	1	4	3			
11:33 AM	2	1	4	Keynote		
12:06 PM				3	2	1
12:36 PM	VR			4	3	2
1:06 AM	BREAK					
1:35 AM	3	2	1			
2:05 AM	4	3	2	VR		
2:35 AM	Evaluation and Finish					

Techtrails format

We commence the incursion with a group welcome to our participating speakers and the attending student cohort. Students will then be split into six groups to hear presentations from the various speakers and partake in the Virtual Reality activity. The VR Volunteers group will spend the morning setting up the space for the VR Activity. They will then do two rotations with the students in the afternoon, supporting them with using the VR headsets and doing their activities, which will be tiring, but great fun as each student group is different.





Your Involvement

The VR Activity sessions are usually one hour in length and we typically do two rotations for each Techtrails. The ask of you as a VR Volunteer is to support the following key requirements to make these sessions a success:

- Setup and pack down of the VR Activity area, this may include:
 - Unpacking and re-packing of VR equipment
 - Setting up virtual safe play areas on each headset and marking out physical safe play areas on the floor
 - Ensuring headsets are charged between sessions and replacing batteries
- Helping to manage, setup, and pack down of any other equipment required to support the VR Activities
- Helping students during their VR Experience to navigate the headset and controller use and supporting them if they are having any technical issues
- Monitoring the area to ensure that students are using the headsets in a safe manner and there are no disruptions to the safe play area
- Wiping down headsets between group sessions
- Supporting student engaging in written or other group activities while waiting for their turn with the VR headsets

Don't worry, you won't be alone! We will have a team of VR Volunteers working together to coordinate the above. We will supply you with training material for the headsets prior to your first Techtrails so that you are all ready to go. We also have Quick Reference Guides available on the day for both VR Headset troubleshooting and Student Engagement FAQs.

If you have any issues with students during the day, please speak to a teacher or WiTWA member as soon as possible – we value the time that you are giving and want to ensure it is a positive experience for everyone.

VR Activity Format

We work with schools to invite secondary students (in most instances year 8, 9 or 10 students), to participate in the Techtrails incursion. The number of students that participate depends on a few factors, but the number usually ranges from 120 to 150 students. Teaching staff are actively engaged in supervising students at Techtrails. However please consider that you are interacting with adolescents and as such you will encounter different personalities and levels of engagement.

We will typically have between 50-70 students in each VR Activity Session.



VR Headsets

Techtrails uses the Oculus Quest Virtual Reality headset for our VR Activity in both Techtrails incursions and sometimes for demonstrations and activities as part of industry events and education conferences. You may be asked to also help support one of these other styles of events, subject to your availability.

When you come on board as a VR Volunteer, we will organise a session with you prior to your first Techtrails to show you how we use the VR headset and let you get familiar with the controls of the applications that we will be using on the day.

Marketing and Governance Requirements

Filming & Photography

On the day we will have a photographer/videographer on hand that will capture moments with the students using the VR Headsets, which may include our volunteers. If you are presenting as part of any of the VR Activities, we may also ask to either film your presentation to one of the groups and/or ask that you take part in a short video interview with a WITWA representative. These images and footage will subsequently be shared via the WITWA and Techtrails websites. It may also form part of the WITWA Techtrails Digital Toolkit or a Techtrails Online learning module. If you have any concerns about being filmed or the images/video being used by WITWA please let us know as soon as possible. We may ask you to sign a media release form.

Working with Children's Check

After your first few Techtrails, you may be asked to provide or apply for a Working with Children's Check to continue supporting the Techtrails program. Please let us know upfront if you already have a WWCC or if there are any concerns with your ability to obtain one.

Thank you for your interest in volunteering to support Techtrails and we look forward to hearing from you!



FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please our Techtrails team:

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