



2026
excellence
in Education
AWARDS



Creative
Excellence



Curriculum
Excellence



Tech
Excellence

How have you used Apple products to bring learning to life?

The Excellence in Education Awards celebrates educators and students who creatively use Apple technology to bring learning to life. The awards recognise teachers who foster critical thinking, innovation and collaboration among students in their classrooms.

Over the last 18 years, we have had thousands of entries from schools across the country. Technology is playing a bigger role than ever before and our competition aims to reward the innovators in this educational evolution. We continue to recognise schools, teachers and students for their forward thinking and innovative explorations in education.

We're excited to announce this year's challenge:

How have you used Apple products to bring learning to life?

Whether it's an innovative AI project, a breakthrough coding invention, a creative arts project or curriculum integration experience, show us how Mac or iPad have empowered your students' learning journey. Submit your students' most creative, tech-savvy or curriculum-driven projects today. The only limitation is your creativity and imagination.

We are excited to announce that **ONCE AGAIN** we shall host a face-to-face **Awards Ceremony**

Shortlisted finalists will be invited to our grand event in November 2026.






iPads for winning teachers and students!

Grades R-3 and Grades 4-7



Prizes will be awarded according to the following criteria.

In each grade category, there will be a prize for:

-  **Creative Excellence Award:**
Most Creative Use of Apple Products and Apps.
-  **Curriculum Excellence Award:**
Seamless Curriculum Integration - Bringing Curriculum Concepts to Life.
-  **Tech Excellence Award:**
Most Innovative AI or Coding Project.

1st Place Prizes include:




Teacher: iPad (1 teacher per project) | **Student/s:** iPad (max 2 students per project).

MacBook Neo for winning teachers and students!

Grades 8-12



This group will be judged as a single competition.
Entries may include one or more of the following categories:

-  **Creative Excellence:**
Most Creative Use of Apple Products and Apps.
-  **Curriculum Excellence:**
Seamless Curriculum Integration - Bringing Curriculum Concepts to Life.
-  **Tech Excellence:**
Most Innovative AI or Coding Project.

1st Place Prizes include:

Teacher: MacBook Neo (1 teacher per project) | **Student/s:** MacBook Neo (max 2 students per project).

2026 CHALLENGES



**Creative
Excellence**

Most Creative Use of Apple Products and Apps

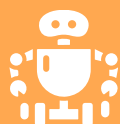
Showcase your imagination! This award celebrates the most original and inspiring ways Apple technology has been used to engage students, enhance understanding and make learning memorable.



**Curriculum
Excellence**

Seamless Curriculum Integration – Bringing Curriculum Concepts to Life

Demonstrate how you've woven Apple devices and apps into teaching and learning. Regardless of the subject, share how you've made lessons come alive with powerful, purposeful integration.



**Tech
Excellence**

Most Innovative AI or Coding Project

Are your students exploring the future of tech? This category recognises cutting-edge classroom projects using AI tools or coding platforms on Apple devices to build problem-solving, creativity and critical thinking.

[Enter now](#)

For further information, support, ideas or inspiration please contact: [**education@istore.co.za**](mailto:education@istore.co.za)

Submission deadline - 02 October 2026

JUDGING

CRITERIA



Project requirements:



- Evidence of Mac/iPad used to create project.
- Entry shows creativity and originality throughout.
- Entry includes media of a high quality.
- Resource list at the end, acknowledging sources and apps used when compiling the project.

Submission requirements



- Choice of submission:
 - mp4 (max 3 min)
- Individual or group project (maximum 1 teacher and 2 students) may be submitted.
- Teacher and student/s names to be included at the beginning of the entry.
- All submissions to be submitted as an MP4 video via Google Drive or Youtube (screen recordings of presentations, eBooks, coding projects etc, may be submitted in video format).

Prizes will be awarded as follows:



	Grades R-3	Grades 4-7	Grades 8-12
Creative Excellence	1 Winner	1 Winner	1 Overall winner
Curriculum Excellence	1 Winner	1 Winner	
Tech Excellence	1 Winner	1 Winner	



TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The decisions of the judges, on all matters relating to the judging, including, but not limited to, qualifications and categories, are final and binding and no correspondence will be entered into. This competition is based solely on skill and will be judged accordingly. No prizes will be awarded on the basis of lot or chance. The Excellence in Education Awards are not open to Core Group, iStore Education employees or iSchool Africa employees, iStore competition sponsors and their immediate families. Any entry that infringes any law, regulation or voluntary or regulatory codes of practice is not eligible. It is the responsibility of the entrant to withdraw such work.

Property of entries: All materials that accompany or form part of an entry will become the sole property of iStore Education. Accordingly, iStore Education will not be obliged to return any items submitted and will further not be responsible for their loss, damage or destruction. The entrant agrees hereto.

License: By submitting an entry the entrant hereby grants iStore Education and its agents an irrevocable, royalty free, non-exclusive license, throughout the world, to publish and use the entry and all material submitted therewith, in any publication, advertisement, marketing or promotional material (including television or radio station news or other programmes related to iStore Education), by any means iStore Education chooses, including without limitation, print, electronic media and broadcast. The entrant also grants permission to iStore Education to show, copy or play the entry at such times as iStore Education deems appropriate. iStore Education reserves the right to make available for educational and reference purposes, including electronic publishing, any entries and all material submitted therewith. The entrant agrees hereto. If the entrant does not agree hereto, the entrant must notify iStore Education immediately and withdraw its entry.

Warranties: By submitting an entry the entrant warrants that it is entitled to grant the license referred to above and that it has obtained all necessary permissions, usage rights and waivers of moral rights from all third parties who contributed to or commissioned the entry. The entrant also warrants that the credits and information in the entry are true and correct and that publication and use of those credits and information will not infringe any moral or other rights of the entrant or any third party. Further, the entrant warrants that the entry is the entrant's original work, does not infringe on any copyright or other intellectual property right of any person and may be used by iStore Education as contemplated above.

Indemnity and non-liability: The entrant hereby agrees to indemnify iStore Education and hold it harmless from any costs, expenses or damages, including court costs and reasonable attorney's fees, arising out of the breach or alleged breach of the above representations and warranties.

Right to withdraw and change entries: iStore Education reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to reject any entry, for good reason, or move any entry to an alternative category. Should none of the entries in a particular category be deemed a high enough standard/quality, iStore Education has the right to make the decision not to award prizes in that category. Any entries not submitted in mp4 will be disqualified. All entries need to be created FOR this competition. No entries may be reused, previously entered into other competitions.

Law and domicile: This competition is governed by the laws of South Africa. iStore Education chooses as its domicilium citandi et executandi for all purposes under this agreement, whether in respect of court process, notice, or other documents or communication of whatsoever nature, 1 Sandton Drive, Sandhurst, 2196.

Judging: This competition will be judged by an independent, external panel of judges. The organiser reserves the right to choose the judges. Only shortlisted entries will be judged by the independent panel of judges. No correspondence will be entered into.

Variation: iStore Education may, at its sole discretion, change this agreement or any part thereof at any time without notice.

Closing date for competition: All entries must be submitted by the referenced category deadline, 02 October 2026. Only entries from South African schools will be permitted.

Prize notification and collection: Prizes as specified by iStore Education may not be exchanged for cash and are not transferable.

iStore
EDUCATION



Premium
Education Partner