

Highlights and Achievements of Young Enterprise in 2023:



Inspiring Future Business Leaders: Young Enterprise has continued its mission to inspire and nurture the next generation of business leaders, disruptors, and changemakers. YES has worked towards creating a generation of financially competent individuals in New Zealand.

Hands-On Business Experience: 160 secondary students from 7 schools in Southland have actively engaged in setting up and managing their own businesses. This hands-on experience has allowed them to understand the intricacies of business operations, including managing real profit and loss. Schools participating: Southland Girls' High, Southland Boys' High, Verdon College, Mt Aspiring College, James Hargest College, Aparima College & St Peters, Gore (new to the programme for 2023).

Regional and National Competition: Young Southland Enterprise participants, which makes up 48 YES businesses not only run their businesses but also compete in regional and national competitions. There are 22 regions across New Zealand, where teams vie for the title of National Champion.

Challenge Competitions: The students participated in four YES Challenges, each contributing to a total of 100 points. These challenges encourage students to think innovatively and develop enterprising attributes. The challenges are a key part of the competition process, with awards & prizes along the way.

Path to the National Final: After successfully completing the YES Challenges, the top six teams from our region are invited to pitch their business ideas at the Regional Final to determine the Regional Champion. Southlands regional winner then advances to the National Final. Awards Gala Dinner takes place in December in Wellington.

2023 regional winner was **Treet Yourself** from Aparima College, passionate to address the environmental crisis in Aotearoa, offering affordable tree planting. Co-CEO Caleb Diprose and Brodie Murdoch are now actively engaged with Thriving Southland exploring further opportunity within the catchments with tree planting.

Tess Mc Donald, James Hargest College awarded Enterpriser of the Year with HitMe! Creating glucose gummy sweets for diabetics.

Promoting Innovative Thinking: Through these experiences, students are encouraged to think innovatively and develop vital entrepreneurial skills. Young Enterprise provides an incredible learning journey for over 4700 students in NZ this year, imparting practical business knowledge and fostering an enterprising mindset among the youth. Southland students engaged with COIN South in a kick start/design sprint to teach the basics of getting their ideas onto paper. A marketing workshop from engaging southland champions was also held to share their skills and knowledge with sales.

Special Mention: Further opportunity arose for some passionate students who were chosen to attend Extreme Experiences in Wellington and Auckland. These YES programmes offered our students to meet with likeminded students around NZ and work on a business challenge.

Kobi Harpur – LatAm Biz Peru Business Challenge (Southland Girls High)

Hannah Calder – EIA Extreme Experiences (Southland Girls High)

Ava Aitken - EIA Extreme Experiences (James Hargest College)

Aubrey Page – EIA Extreme Experiences (Southland Boys High)

Katiana Simpson – (Verdon College) had the opportunity to have a one on one meeting with Shaun Wallace from The Chase, whilst visiting Invercargill. An incredible opportunity where they discussed business mental health and Young Enterprise scheme.