

MEDIA ALERT

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HUNTER WATER LEARNING WITH NEXT GENERATION IN INDUSTRY-FIRST EDUCATION PROGRAM

More than 350 Hunter students have taken part in a unique education program, aimed at empowering the next generation to take action and create solutions for real-life water challenges.

'Learning Together to Change Our World' is a first-of-its-kind program for the Australian water industry, which brings together Hunter Water and students from New Lambton Public School, Mayfield West Demonstration School and Hunter Sports High School.

The program concluded today with a special gala event in Newcastle, to celebrate the achievements of the students and showcase some of the projects.

Minister for Energy and Utilities Don Harwin said the program was highly successful in engaging young people to design and create innovative water projects.

"I'm really impressed by the high standard of innovative and forward-thinking ideas that have been brought to life in these projects.

"From the design of an inflatable pool to capture and recycle the water used when washing your car, to a Bluetooth shower head to monitor the length of your shower – it's wonderful to see students working collaboratively to find solutions to conserving water.

"I congratulate all involved for their creativity and contribution as we work together to create a sustainable and resilient water future," said Mr Harwin.

Hunter Water Managing Director Jim Bentley said the program was about learning with students and encouraging water wise behaviours.

"While we're fortunate to have received enough rainfall to start summer with our storages in a good position, it's important we continue to value, respect and ultimately love water because it's a precious resource, and one that belongs to all of us.

"Children can be some of the best water savers in the family home. They are resilient and adaptive, and are the perfect people to drive change towards a more sustainable water future.

"We've already learned so much from this group of young people and we look forward to continuing the program next year," said Mr Bentley.