

2025 STANSW Young Scientist Awards

Isla Costin MLC School

Project Title: Not All Water Is Equal - Hard Ions, Soft Suds, And The Science Of Collapse: A Quantitative Investigation Into The Effect Of Calcium And Magnesium Ion Concentration On The Foam Stability Of A 1% Synthetic Dettol Liquid Hand Wash Solution

Year 11 to 12 Scientific Investigations - Chemistry

Dear Isla,

Congratulations on being part of this year's Young Scientist Awards and for the thought, care, and originality you brought to your project. You've demonstrated genuine initiative in designing and carrying out your own ideas – an achievement that reflects both curiosity and persistence.

Our judges reviewed your project in detail, considering how clearly you explored your question, how well you supported your conclusions, and how effectively you communicated your process. Their feedback below highlights the aspects that were particularly strong and offers suggestions to help you extend your thinking even further – much like the peer review process used in professional research.

The strengths of your project include:

- performing detailed background research and checking the reliability of your sources
- conducting a statistical analysis of the relationships in the data

Next time, you could make your project even better by:

- acknowledging all those who supported you and clearly outlining their involvement

Thank you for sharing your work with us, it is a testament to your growing capability as an investigator, communicator, and creative thinker. We hope this experience strengthens your confidence and inspires you to keep pursuing questions that matter to you..

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Philippa Miller'.

Philippa Miller

Young Scientist Coordinator