

Dónal McDermott

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WORK EXPERIENCE

STEM Racing Ireland (formerly F1 in Schools) <i>National Director</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Oversee Ireland’s national STEM Racing competition, where students design and race miniature Formula 1 cars.Led operations, partnerships, and events across universities, sponsors, and mentors to expand program quality and reach.	Sep. 2024 – Present <i>Galway, Ireland</i>
Athlone Fiddle Lessons <i>Founder and Lead Teacher</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Built and manage a small music school offering traditional Irish fiddle tuition.	Aug. 2022 – Present <i>Athlone, Ireland</i>
Cashew <i>Founder and CEO</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Built and led a team developing an AI-powered contact memory app.Pitched at Patch Accelerator Demo Day to 300+ attendees, secured early testers, and led product design, branding, and investor outreach.	July 2025 – Jan. 2026 <i>Dublin, Ireland</i>
Ericsson <i>Software Engineer Intern</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Built automation scripts and redesigned UI components for Ericsson’s Cloud Native Infrastructure Verification (CNIV) platform, improving deployment efficiency and lowering customer support load.	May. 2025 – Jul. 2025 <i>Athlone, Ireland</i>

PROJECTS

F1 in Schools <i>Team Manager and Lead Engineer - Catalyst Racing</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Managed engineering and design for Ireland’s fastest F1 in Schools car, leading the team to 5th place worldwide.	Oct. 2021 - Sep. 2023 <i>Athlone, Ireland</i>
CanSat <i>Head of Aerospace and Satellite Design - Team Atlas</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Designed and launched a CanSat to assess exoplanet habitability using environmental sensors, onboard imaging, and a custom landing system.	Oct. 2022 - May 2023 <i>Athlone, Ireland</i>
BT Young Scientist <i>Development of Embedded Safety Systems to Reduce Marine Casualties 2023</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Built a real-time ESP-32 tracking device to locate overboard ship passengers.	
<i>Automated Pothole Detection and Reporting System 2022</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Developed a system to automatically detect and report road potholes using computer vision.	

EDUCATION

University of Galway <i>Bachelor's Degree in Electronic and Computer Engineering</i>	Expected 2028 <i>Galway, Ireland</i>
Marist College Athlone <ul style="list-style-type: none">Leaving Cert Grade: 613/625 points	May. 2024

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

- Naughton Scholarship** – National STEM scholarship awarded for excellence in science and engineering.
- Meta Engineer of the Future Award** – Recognized for innovation and technical achievement.
- Student of the Year 2024** – Marist College.
- Madden Art in Engineering Award** – Honoured for artistic innovation inspired by engineering design.
- Patch 2025 Fellow** – Selected for a competitive entrepreneurship program developing an AI-driven product.