

Chia Xin Jie, Janelle

Nitec in
Aerospace Avionics
ITE College Central



ITE Lee Kuan Yew

CCA Award

Punching Above Weight

Janelle, originally a self-taught gymnast, switched to taekwondo at nine based on her aunt's suggestion. With her coach's guidance, she quickly progressed and joined Acme Taekwondo Club in 2019, soon competing nationally. By 2024, Janelle was selected for the Singapore National Virtual Taekwondo Team and earned a bronze medal at the 2025 Asian E-Sports Week – the only Singaporean in her event.

Balancing four to five weekly training sessions during competition season, Janelle stayed dedicated to her studies and also played football to diversify her athletic experience. Beyond sports, she actively participated in community service projects, prioritising giving back alongside her commitments.

From the Heart

"ITE has been a place of growth and transformation for me. I entered with doubts shaped by stereotypes and struggled with self-confidence, but the support from my class advisor and lecturers gave me the courage and confidence to keep going and growing. Balancing rigorous training, studies, and long daily commutes was challenging and tiring, but it taught me resilience, discipline, and the determination to push beyond my limits. My journey in ITE has shaped who I am and continues to inspire me to strive for excellence in both taekwondo and the field of aviation."

Life after ITE

Janelle is currently pursuing a Diploma in Aerospace Electronics at Temasek Polytechnic, working towards her long-term goal of joining Scoot airlines as a pilot. She hopes to continue competing in virtual taekwondo for the next five to seven years, with aspirations to represent Singapore at the SEA Games, World Championships, and Olympic Games.

Top Achievements

- Janelle was selected for the Singapore Taekwondo Federation National Development Squad in 2024, competing as part of Team Singapore at international competitions.
- She won Gold at the inaugural Singapore Open 2024 Virtual Taekwondo Championships, and later clinched Bronze medals at the Muju Taekwondowon 2024 International Open Virtual Taekwondo Championships (Young Adult Individual Female category) in Korea, and the Virtual Taekwondo event at the 2025 Asia Esports Week in Hangzhou, China.
- At the college level, Janelle brought honour to ITE by winning Silver and Gold at the Poly-ITE Games 2024 and 2025 respectively in the Female Black Kyorugi U46kg category.
- Beyond her sporting achievements, Janelle contributed actively to community service efforts such as the Bone Marrow Donor Programme where she engaged members of public at the donor recruitment booth to raise awareness and encourage sign-ups, and volunteer work supporting children in need during an Overseas Student Development Programme in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

