



“There is always one moment in childhood when the door opens and lets the future in” - Graham Green

PARENT NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Guardians, I hope you will be pleased to know that your son/daughter is participating in Children’s University.

What is Children’s University?

The Children’s University is a national organisation that provides 5 to 14 year olds with exciting and innovative learning activities and experiences outside normal school hours. We celebrate achievement and reward participation through our certificates.

Raising children's aspirations is important to us and we aim to develop the understanding that learning can be the satellite navigation to better places in life! At the heart of its work is the ambition to raise aspirations, boost achievement and foster a love of learning, so that young people can make the most of their abilities and interests.

How does it work?

You will be pleased to know that your school will be providing a variety of extra curricular activities for your child to participate in, please speak to your school for more information about the clubs they run. An important principle of the Children’s University is that participation is voluntary. Every time a student takes part in one hour of voluntary learning they gain 1 credit towards Children’s University. Young people can gain credits from participating in school led activities or from learning at verified “Learning Destinations” across Merseyside.

Children who gain sufficient credits by the end of a Key Stage will be invited to graduate from Lancashire Children’s University at a special ceremony held a local University.

Credit Targets

We have set targets that young people need to reach in order to graduate, these are listed below

	Bronze	Silver	Gold
Award	30	65	100
Certificate	130	165	200
Diploma	230	265	300
Degree	330	365	400

Passport to Learning

Your school will keep records on your child's progress but the young people can also keep a record of their progress in their Passport to Learning. Children can collect stamps for all the learning activities they take part in to record their achievement. Each Passport is individually numbered which makes each child, as passport holder, an individual member of the national Children's University.



Public Learning Destinations

In addition to the vast amount of activities your school offer, you child can also gain credits by visiting Public Learning Destinations. These are places which provide Children's University validated learning activities and which are publicly accessible, such as museums, sports clubs, libraries and theatres.

Each Learning Destination has to meet strict guidelines in order to gain the Children's University stamp of approval (look out for our logo).

Don't forget to bring along your child's passport!

We will be continuously growing our list of Public Learning Destinations, for an up to date list please visit www.childrensuniversity.co.uk. We are in the process of creating Facebook and twitter accounts and we will let you know your school know when these accounts are live. There are also many more Learning Destinations nationally, feel free to venture further!

Please do not hesitate to suggest new Learning Destinations or for *further details please contact Sacha Koster, Lancashire Children's University Co-Coordinator at sachak@seftonebp.co.uk or call 0151 330 5760.*