



Are there costs for Membership?

All School and Academy members of the Children's University™ are expected to pay an annual membership fee. The membership fee is determined by the number of pupils you have. For further information please contact the local CU Manager.

The cost of CU Membership for each child is £5. We strongly believe that, where possible, families should cover this cost. Experience has shown that in making a financial commitment, a far greater value and commitment is attached to Children's University learning.

We do recognise that for children from the lowest income families this amount could prove prohibitive. In these circumstances a school or academy will, typically, purchase the CU Membership on behalf of the child using their Pupil Premium.

How do we get involved?

Please contact the local CU office to arrange a discussion with the CU Manager (all contact details of local CU centres are available through the CU website www.childrensuniversity.co.uk). The CU Manager can provide you and your school staff with detailed info about what's involved in becoming a part of the CU network. It is not a difficult or time consuming process and we will support you every step on the way.

We will go through the list of your school / academy-based activities you would like to be quality approved as Children's University *Learning Activities*; these will then be assessed against our quality assurance guidelines laid down by the national framework '*Planning for Learning*'. Support will be given to implement the *E-Passport* data management tool to ensure you are able to track the participation and impact of your Children's University participation.

For more information please contact:

Tel: (01622) 694987

Email: kcu@kent.gov.uk

Visit: www.kentchildrensuniversity.co.uk

Information for Schools and Academies





What is the Children's University™?

The Children's University is an international charity that provides 7 to 14 year olds (and 5 to 6 year olds with their families) with access to exciting and innovative CU *Learning Activities* and experiences outside of the normal school day.

We celebrate achievement and reward participation through the award of Children's University certificates. Raising children's aspiration is important to us and we aim to develop the understanding that learning can be the '*satellite navigation system to better places in life*'.

On becoming members of the Children's University™, children are issued with a *Passport to Learning*. The children are encouraged to travel to CU *Learning Destinations* and participate in CU *Learning Activities*. Each hour of CU validated learning they complete brings the child closer to a Children's University graduation certificate, presented at a locally organised CU graduation ceremony, hosted in a real university setting with proud parents in the audience.



What is a CU Learning Destination and what kind of activities are CU Learning Activities?

We are able to consider, for *Learning Destination* status, any activity that:

- Enables children to further develop and improve their skills & knowledge
- Is undertaken **voluntarily**, outside of normal school hours and can include activities that run before school, at lunchtimes and after school
- Relates to a subject that can be studied in Further or Higher Education
- Raises aspirations, showing children that learning can be challenging and fun

As well as school based *Learning Activities* offered with restricted access, there are Public *Learning Destinations* that can include, but are not limited to one-off workshops, lectures, libraries, museums, creative arts, sports coaching... the list continues to grow both locally and across the UK.

The quality assurance process of assessment for *Learning Destinations* status is called *CU Validation*.



What are the benefits to schools and academies?

- CU provides the opportunity for targeted support for the most vulnerable children
- CU brings coherence to an enrichment programme and allows close tracking of uptake and impact of participation
- CU provides instant reporting methods to meet all current OFSTED and internal requirements
- CU supports exciting opportunities for transition
- Key findings of our work through independent national evaluation show that CU impacts on: **Attendance; Attainment; Achievement; Attitudes; Adventure; Awards; Agency; Aspiration; Adaptability; Advocacy**

For copies of annual CU evaluation reports by Professor John MacBeath (University of Cambridge), please visit the CU website: www.childrensuniversity.co.uk