

The **EE**Fective Kent Project
Making it Work for All:
Moving from Implementation to Impact



Learning Beyond the Classroom: the value of co-curricular activities



Emma Jenkins

Manager for Kent Children's University



Snodland
Church of England
Primary School

Dan Pring

Deputy Headteacher at Snodland Church of England Primary School

Learning Beyond the Classroom: the value of co-curricular activities

Learning beyond the classroom offers children and young people a way to develop skills, build knowledge, discover hobbies, and explore new interests on their own terms.

Ensuring children have the time and space to learn under their own steam - following their own nose and being led by their burgeoning passions - helps them lay down foundations that can support them into adulthood.

This workshop will explore the importance and value of co-curricular learning, especially during a cost-of-living crisis.

Learning Beyond the Classroom: the value of co-curricular activities

“If our children spend only 9% of their lives in school, who’s responsibility is it to really educate our children?”

Learning Beyond the Classroom: the value of co-curricular activities

“Learning beyond the classroom” is the term we use to describe participation in any structured learning activity outside of the timetabled curriculum.

This is inclusive of school-based enrichment and co-curricular activities, as well as those that take place outside of schools and are run by organisations and individuals with no links to formal education.

It should be a form of learning that is unaffected by the instability and change in the world around children and young people.

Learning Beyond the Classroom: the value of co-curricular activities

At a time when 25% of schools are reporting cutting spending on trips and outings, and 20% are cutting spend on sports and co-curricular activities, national Children's University Trust data finds that children are reliant on schools to access these kinds of activities.

At a time when the cost-of-living crisis is putting even greater strain on families than ever before, our data shows that children are reliant on free activities in order to engage in learning beyond the classroom.

At a time when 90% of state secondary schools have made cuts in the provision of creative subjects, our data shows a drop in levels of creativity, despite evidence of links between skills development and participation in learning beyond the classroom.

Learning Beyond the Classroom: the value of co-curricular activities

A YouGov poll found that 72% of parents agreed that “all schools receiving extra government funding to provide additional extra-curricular activities like sport, drama, music, debating or dance” would be a good idea.

Schools, despite the cuts described above, see the value to be found beyond the classroom but are not funded to encourage it as they should.

The cost-of-living crisis isn't just affecting families and households, increasing energy bills are having a devastating impact on school budgets . The need for learning beyond the classroom is huge, but demand is overwhelmingly reliant on the ability of schools to supply it.

Learning Beyond the Classroom: the value of co-curricular activities



Learning Beyond the Classroom: the value of co-curricular activities

What children do within the classroom is documented, measured and, because of the curriculum, remains uniform across age-groups.

However, huge sections of a child's life fall within the grey area between school, home, community, and their own particular interests. A snapshot of academic classroom achievement is only part of a child's story. The community assets around a child and the opportunities available to them hold the potential to impact positively on their lives. Similarly knowing what a child does once the school day is over can help educators support them and holds influence on classroom achievement.

The combination and contrast between what is available to young people and what they choose to do, or are able to access, tells a unique story for each child.

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What is Children's University™?

The Children's University™ (CU) aims to promote exciting learning opportunities and experiences outside normal school hours for children aged 7- to 14- (and 5- and 6-year-olds with their families). 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.

Learning Beyond the Classroom: the value of co-curricular activities



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6CAWqnZph9I>

Learning Beyond the Classroom: the value of co-curricular activities

What is a Learning Destination?

Learning Destinations are places and organisations to which children can 'travel' with their *Passport To Learning*. They provide high quality learning activities and experiences with a 'wow' factor and have passed the Children's University's™ own quality assurance process (*Planning for Learning*). A *Learning Destination* can range from a museum to a farm or from an airport to a school.

There are *Learning Destinations* across the country.
You can find out more about them by visiting www.childrensuniversity.co.uk

Learning Beyond the Classroom: the value of co-curricular activities

Essential skills for education, work and life

Communication



Creative Problem Solving



Self-Management



Collaboration



Learning Beyond the Classroom: the value of co-curricular activities

Essential skills for education, work and life

☐ Arts, culture and music

☐ Family learning

☐ Literacy

☐ Online

☐ Science, technology, engineering and maths

☐ Uniformed groups

☐ Careers and enterprise

☐ History and heritage

☐ Mental health and well-being

☐ Outdoor learning

☐ Social and community action

☐ Citizenship

☐ Languages

☐ Nature and the environment

☐ Practical life skills

☐ Sports and physical



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Essential skills for education, work and life

Communication



Creative Problem Solving



Self-Management



Collaboration



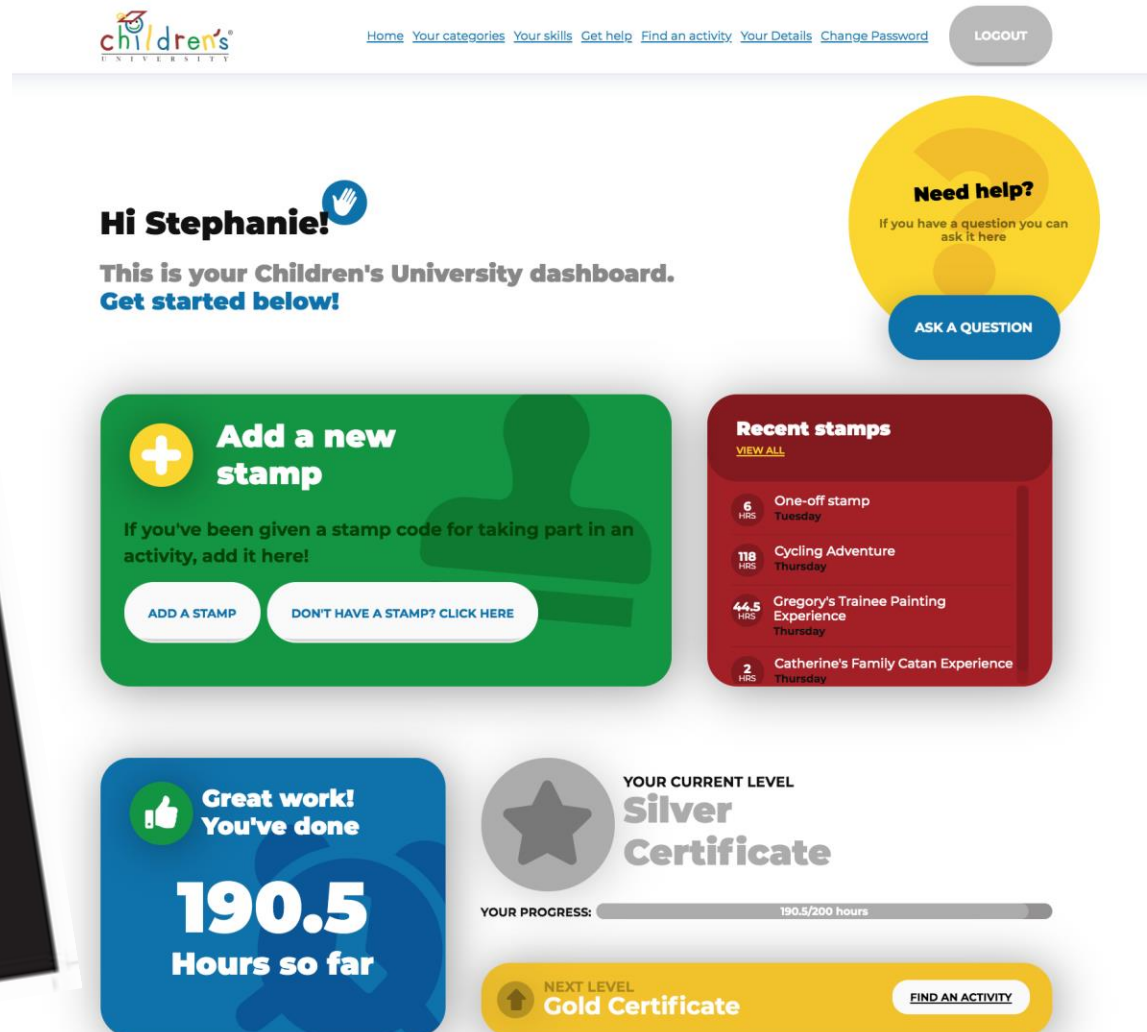
Learning Beyond the Classroom: the value of co-curricular activities

Recognising and rewarding participation

Children's University™ students use *Passports To Learning* in which they record the number of hours of completed CU validated learning activities.

Children are encouraged to progress through the national certification scheme, based on the number of hours of attendance throughout their involvement with the Children's University™.

Learning Beyond the Classroom: the value of co-curricular activities

A screenshot of the Children's University dashboard. The header includes the 'children's UNIVERSITY' logo, navigation links (Home, Your categories, Your skills, Get help, Find an activity, Your Details, Change Password), and a 'LOGOUT' button. The main content area is divided into several sections: a greeting 'Hi Stephanie!' with a hand icon and a 'Need help?' button; a green box for 'Add a new stamp' with a plus icon and buttons for 'ADD A STAMP' and 'DON'T HAVE A STAMP? CLICK HERE'; a red box for 'Recent stamps' with a 'VIEW ALL' link and a list of stamps (One-off stamp, Cycling Adventure, Gregory's Trainee Painting Experience, Catherine's Family Catan Experience); a blue box for 'Great work! You've done' showing '190.5 Hours so far'; and a section for 'YOUR CURRENT LEVEL' showing 'Silver Certificate' with a progress bar at 190.5/200 hours and a 'NEXT LEVEL Gold Certificate' button with a 'FIND AN ACTIVITY' link.

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fsotHTn7xqg>

Learning Beyond the Classroom: the value of co-curricular activities

Stamps

+ Add Stamp

Stamp Code	Type	Can be claimed	Hours Granted	Created	Status
purple 3 7 0 8	Standard	10 times	3	03/03/2021	Active



Hi Stephanie! This is your Children's University dashboard. Get started below!

Add a new stamp
If you've been given a stamp code for taking part in an activity, add it here!
ADD A STAMP | DON'T HAVE A STAMP? CLICK HERE

Recent stamps

- One-off stamp
- Cycling Adventure
- Gregory's Trainee Painting Experience
- Catherine's Family Catan Experience

Great work! You've done 190.5 Hours so far

YOUR CURRENT LEVEL Silver Certificate

YOUR PROGRESS: 190.5/200 hours

NEXT LEVEL Gold Certificate | FIND AN ACTIVITY

Need help?
If you have a question you can ask it here.
ASK A QUESTION



Your top skills

- 1 Listening
- 2 Aiming high
- 3 Creativity
- 4 Presenting
- 5 Staying positive



Your top categories

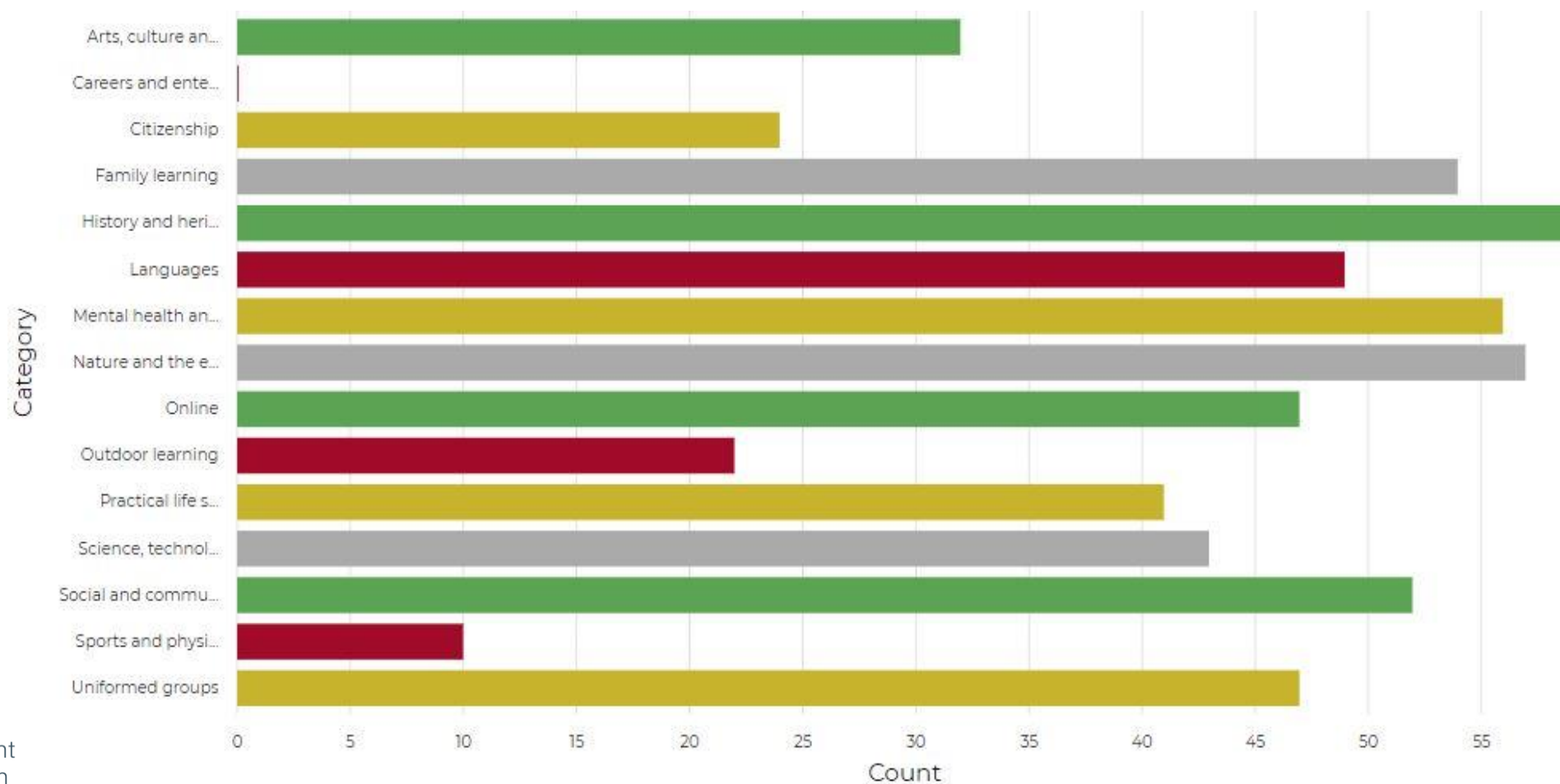
- 1 History and heritage
3 HOURS



Children collect stamp codes in their Passport to Learning that they can then add online.

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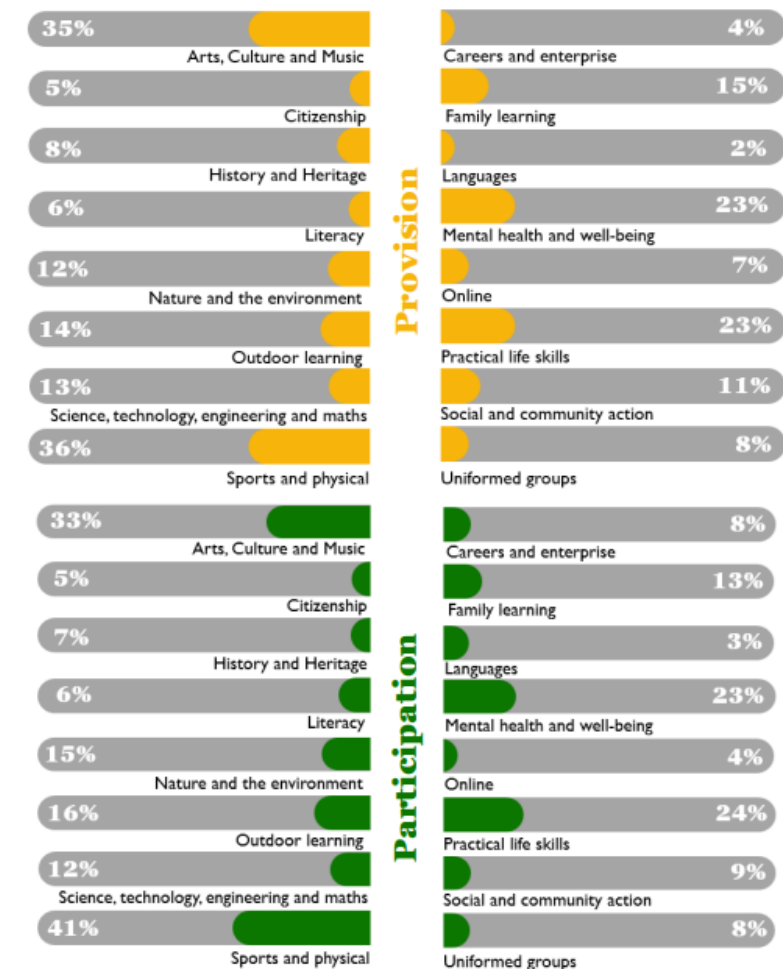
Data Dashboard for schools



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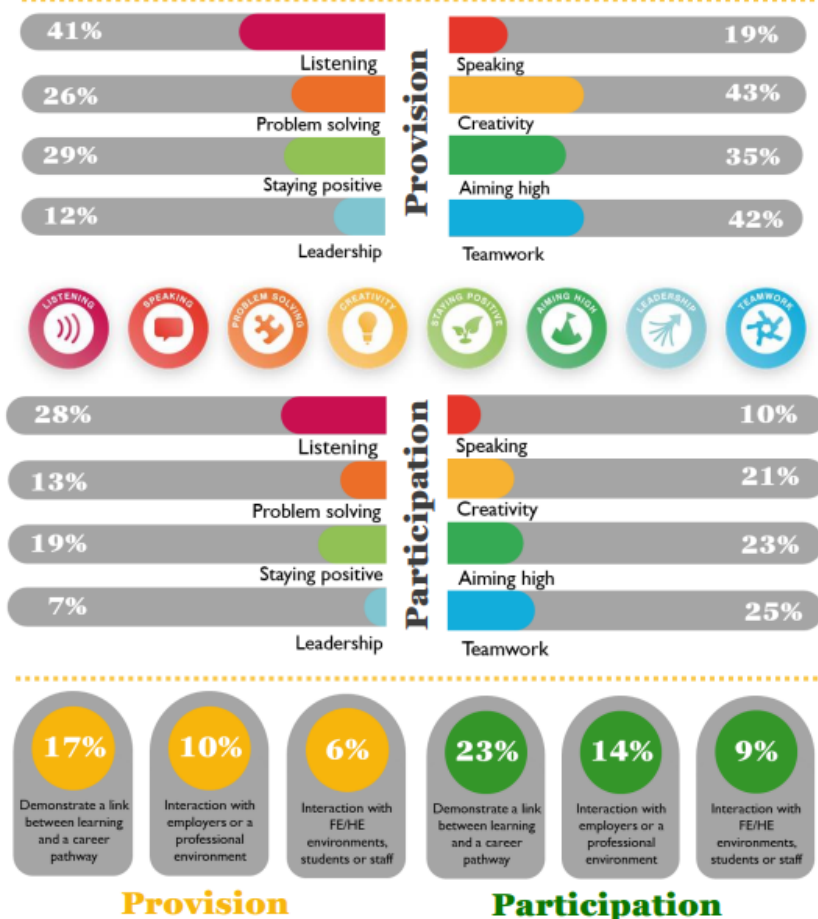
Categorisation of activities

All validated activities are tagged with up to four thematic categories of learning. Using this data we are able to provide a side-by-side look at what activities are available to children (Provision) and how that compares to the activities that children have actually done in the past year (Participation). This data covers the period July 2021 – August 2022. Here we can see the percentage of activities tagged in each category.



Activities tagged by skills

Just as all activities are tagged with relevant learning categories, so too are they tagged with up to three skills, in line with the 8 essential skills of the Skills Builder framework. These tags reflect the skills that the activity providers believe best link to those that children will use and develop through participation.



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Rewarding engagement

Children are encouraged to progress through the Children's University certification scheme, based on their number of hours of engagement throughout their involvement with the Children's University. The hours and expectations associated with these levels work on increments of 30, 65 and 100 hours.



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Graduations



Kent Children's University™ Graduation Ceremony

Monday 10th July 2023

The Ward Room, Pembroke Building,
University of Greenwich, Central Avenue, Chatham Maritime, Kent, ME4 4TB

Doors open at 5.45pm - Ceremony begins at 6.30pm

VIP
GUEST
INVITATION



BRONZE
30, 130 etc
hours of
learning

SILVER
65, 165 etc
hours of
learning

GOLD
100, 200
etc hours of
learning



Learning Beyond the Classroom: the value of co-curricular activities



"We are loving the motivation that the Children's University gives us! Can't wait for his Silver Graduation!!"

Michelle Akgul (parent)

“

My daughter has really enjoyed the Kindness Challenges. She is 5 years old and it has been a great way to help her understand more about the concept of charity and the importance of helping and thinking about others, so I want to say a massive thank you.

- Kate Foster - (Parent)



"We are having lots of fun with KCU and I find the activities and challenges really help me in the holidays too."

ANGELA STOKES (PARENT)



Learning Beyond the Classroom: the value of co-curricular activities



Snodland
Church of England
Primary School

What do co-curricular activities mean to children, families and staff at Snodland Church of England Primary School?

As well as Children's University, we have been on a bit of a journey the past couple of years trying to shape the activities that we provide in school for our children. We now have a full time Forest School teacher; Year 4 are taught how to play an instrument and swimming is provided for Year 3 as well as UKS2 for catch up.

Extra-curricular activities are led by all of our staff: teachers lead a club and teaching assistants are given the opportunity to also deliver a club – all of which, is free for our children to attend.

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	EYFS	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
Theatre	Brook theatre- Chatham- next year			O2 Young Voices concert (T3)	Local Theatre Trip (Marlow best for children shows- when we can get tickets)	London Musical: £25.00 per child. Lion King? (When we can get tickets)	Company come in
Animal Location	Rare Breeds- this year	Wingham Zoo		Living Land Kent showground – free for schools- added to waiting list	Brogdale Farm working farm. £7.50 per child (T3 and 4)- Wendy		
Beach		Minis Bay		Visit Beach- Minster Leas (T3/ 4)- Lisa			
Castle			Rochester Castle (T4/5)				
Sight Seeing	Visit Snodland		Chatham Dockyard		Canterbury (T3/ 4)	Visit London Sightseeing before London Musical (tourist locations) London Musical (T3 and 4) £25.00 pounds per ticket	House of Parliament (if we can get booking) Free
RE	Local Church (T2)	Local Church (T3 and 4)	Chatham Synagogue (T5/6) Nasir mosque gillingham	Sikhism – Gurdwara Contact J. Guru Nanak Darbar (T5/ 6)- Lisa	Dance Workshop. Bollywood Dancing and the story and DIWALI K's Dance Entertainment Ltd (book out hall) (Term 5)	Maidstone Mosque (T5)	Rochester Cathedral (T6 as part of Year Six events) Lisa
Museum/ Gallery		Murstons Hearth	Maidstone Museum £175 per 30 cho Art workshop- Art Detectives (T1 and 2) Snodland Museum (T5 and 6)	Goldrum Long Barrow (1/2 day trip T1 and 2) Guildhall Museum River Study	Lullingstone Villa (T1 and 2)	Greenwich Observatory (Term 3/4) for children staying no residential- Wendy	Dover Castle £5.30 (T5 or 6)
Residential and transitions						Lower Grange Farm	£320.00- PGL Non- residential - £40.00
Geography Fieldwork (Teachers will need to be asked when they want it booked during the term)	Local area walk (T3/4)	Visit Snodland (T3/4)	Visit Snodland Highstreet (T3/4)	Visit River Medway (T3/4) Visit Minster Leas (T3/4)	Visit Canterbury and University of Kent (T3/4)- waiting for confirmation of dates	Visit North Downs (T3/4)	Visit Local Area (T2)



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Our school trip tracker and the offer for our children during their time at our school.

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How does the school fund enrichment?

Clubs

Local networks and the community

Pupil Premium funding

Parental contributions

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Snodland
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Primary School

Why did we choose to get involved in KCU?

Our school is committed to improving the outcomes for all of our children and giving them the opportunity to 'Live life to the full to the glory of God'. As a result of the Lockdown, we highlighted that the resilience of our children upon return to school had been impacted immensely and through looking at the research outcomes of this project, we hoped it will support children in improving in the area. As well as this, we have 28% of children accessing Pupil Premium children and over 32% in receipt of FSM and that continues to slowly rise. Due to the social demographics of the local area a large proportion of our children do not always get the opportunity to explore the wonders of the world.

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What impact does enrichment have on your pupils?

We have created an ambitious curriculum and it is hoped that it will highlight the opportunities to all of our children and lead to them having high aspirations in life.

Although there is not a specific measurable outcome, using KCU as a catalyst to improving the 'offer' and opportunities for children beyond the classroom has had a very positive impact.

Learning Beyond the Classroom: the value of co-curricular activities

73 children from Snodland Primary School have been invited to Graduate next month. This number is set to grow between now and the Graduation as children continue to earn Learning Credits this term.



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What actions could you take?

Look at what you provide access to in school – consider the gaps

Investigate the correlation between learning outside the classroom and classroom attainment/achievement

Look to secure external funding for provision

Involve families e.g. free at-home activities, supporting with clubs

Become a champion for learning outside the classroom

Contact Kent Children's University for support

Learning Beyond the Classroom: the value of co-curricular activities

Learning beyond the classroom matters. It is not a nice-to-have. It is a fundamental part of a well-rounded education.

Now is the time to be ambitious in the use of community wide networks to support all students, especially the most disadvantaged, through enrichment activities.

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Thank you for your involvement this afternoon.

If you would like any further information please email

kcu@theeducationpeople.org

or visit

www.theeducationpeople.org/kent-childrens-university