

Dear Parent/Carer

Your child's school has registered with Doncaster Children's University™ as a 'Learning Destination'. I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with more information about this initiative by answering some frequently asked questions.

What is a learning destination?

A Learning Destination is your child's school or an organisation that offers learning opportunities for children outside normal school hours i.e. after school; they can be in the form of a club, visit or event.

Why validate after school learning?

National Children's University® validation provides you with the confidence that what your child is doing is of a good standard and is fun.

How does it work?

Throughout the year you will receive information regarding after school clubs that your child may attend, children will collect credits for each hour they spend attending after school clubs. The credits are collected in a 'Passport to Learning' which is available from school. Children will receive a Children's University 'National Award' once they have reached Bronze (30 hours) Silver (65 hours) and Gold (100 hours) Awards continue up to 1,000 hours. Certificates are awarded as children move through the different levels. Each year in recognition of their hard work children are invited to a **Graduation Event or Special day out** at Doncaster College. Please note children may *only* collect credits from **validated** learning destinations; please contact the Children's University office for details of validated Learning Destinations.

How much do the passports cost?

£3.50 each however the 'Friends of Kirk Sandall Infant School' will subsidise the cost by £1.50 so the cost will be **£2.00 please make cheques payable to Kirk Sandall Infant School.**

How do I know my children's credits are monitored?

Your school and the other Learning Destinations agree to sign your child's passport after each club or visit and inform Doncaster Children's University. We keep a data base of hours and notify school when the next Graduation Ceremony will be held and who will be graduating. Please note that children will be expected to keep their passports safe and they will be responsible for presenting their passports for signing in school and at other validated Learning Destinations.

Why does my child's school want to join?

An increasing amount of evidence supports the theory that children who volunteer to learn outside the classroom develop a more positive attitude to learning and achieve greater academic success. Your child's school want to give your child every opportunity to succeed as we are sure you do. National validation of the Children's University key finding says that

- Being in the CU significantly improves school attendance.
- Achievement is significantly better at key Stages 1 to 3 for children who participate compared to non-attenders.

Where are the other Learning Destinations that we can take the children?

You can get an up to date list if you email childrens.university@don.ac.uk and if you visit the national website at www.childrensuniversity.co.uk

Coming soon is an online e-passport for further details please contact the Children's University office directly.

If you would like your child to take part please can you complete the reply slip attached and return it to school no later than **Friday 26th September.**

Doncaster Children's University
The Hub
Doncaster College
Tel: 01302 558201 Email: childrens.university@don.ac.uk

Reply Slip

Childs Name _____ Class ____

I would like my child to take part in the Children's University and I enclose £2.00 for their passport.

Signed _____