



East London Children's University
'working together to transform young futures'

We'd love to work closely alongside you on our Children's University programme; delivered to children and their families in the London Boroughs of Barking and Dagenham, Newham, Redbridge and Waltham Forest.

What is the Children's University?

Described by the Sunday Times as 'The University of Fun', Children's University (CU) is a critically acclaimed, extra-curricular programme which takes learning outside the classroom. We encourage 5-14 year olds to try new experiences, develop new interests, discover unknown talents, acquire new skills and hone existing ones. The CU Network has grown over 1000% since it was established in early 2007 and last year 136,000 children participated in Children's University in England and Wales.

In East London, the local Children's University is managed by 15billionebp and in 2017/18 over 8,000 children participated in extra-curricular learning; a figure that will continue to rise.

How Does It Work ?

Participants are presented with a diverse menu of learning activities, everything from lectures about the chemistry of fireworks to street dance workshops, delivered by an array of partners called 'Learning Destinations' e.g. museums, sports venues, universities and afterschool clubs to name a few. Recognition of effort and achievement is central to the success of the programme and each time a participant completes a learning activity they receive a stamp in their CU 'Passport to Learning' – one hour of learning equals one CU credit. Once sufficient credits have been accrued the young person is awarded a CU Certificate of Achievement - there are three levels; undergraduate, postgraduate and doctorate - which is presented to him/her at a CU graduation ceremony, modelled neatly on the 'grown up' version.

Who Participates?

Children's University is open to all children aged 5-14, irrespective of background, as everyone benefits from better exam results, a broader skillset, new interests and a greater awareness of future education/career options.

What Difference Does it Make?

Formative experiences heavily shape future life choices, particularly in relation to education and employment, and independent evaluation by the University of Cambridge has confirmed that participation in CU significantly improves school attendance; increases levels of attainment (across all subject areas) and raises aspirations. It also builds confidence and embeds/nurtures critical life skills such as the ability to work as part of team, effective communication, resilience, and initiative – all highly prized by employers. Finally, CU motivates young people, reducing the likelihood of them getting involved in negative or anti-social behavior.



How can we work together?

Funding – we are a not for profit organisation, schools are increasingly under pressure financially. We'd love to be able to deliver our programme to more schools in East London and financial support would enable us to do this and work together to transform young futures.

East London Children's University Graduation Ceremony - We aim to challenge perceptions of what University can be and how accessible it is, both for the children and their families. Our graduation ceremonies are inspirational events celebrating the achievements of the young people. We work with local organisations such as London Legacy Development Corporation, Here East, University College London, Brampton Manor Academy and Berwin Leighton Paisner to host our ceremonies.



Your businesses could get involved by sponsoring a graduation ceremony, we could advertise your organisations on our invitations/to schools and on our celebratory programmes. There are many options how you can get involved.

Alternatively, if you have the space, we'd love you to host a ceremony. Our ceremonies are usually held after school, from 5-7pm and we celebrate the achievements of 80-100 children in front of their proud families. Our ceremony could include ideas such as mini lectures/tours and student question and answer sessions, the Q&A sessions are usually very popular with our children and their families as they enable our graduates to speak directly. We are extremely flexible with dates and happy to work alongside your schedule.

Free Family Workshops – We deliver Free Family workshops for our families to attend during half term/school holidays. Previously we have worked with the Siemens Crystal to deliver a range of workshops including 'Are you Keen to be Green', 'Cool Coding for Green Fingers' (see appendix 1).



These workshops aim to encourage families to work together and build a 'can do' attitude, developing resilience and encouraging a lifelong love of learning for the whole family. They are a wonderful way to engage with children and their families. We can help to develop marketing materials, advertise and manage the booking process for the workshops. We are keen to expand our workshop offer and work with our wonderful local learning destinations. You could either host a family workshop direct, or alternatively sponsor one of our workshops.

For further information please contact Jessica Worf, East London Children's University Manager – Jessica.worf@15billionebp.org

East London Children's University is a project managed by



Appendix 1: Free Family Workshop – example of previous workshop.



Cool coding for green fingers?

FREE Family Workshop

Join us on our FREE Family Workshop. Earn 2 Children's University credits and learn how coding can help sustainability and the environment.

When: Wednesday 15th February 2017
Time: 2-3pm
Where: Siemens Crystal, 1 Siemens Brothers Way, E16 1GB



You will get the chance to explore one of the world's greenest buildings and interact with our exhibition on green cities of the future! Step into the year 2050 with us and learn how to save the planet. Watch thought provoking videos in our two immersive theatres, run your city sustainably for 40 years, calculate your water footprint, breathe in the clean air by our green wall, have a go on our Pavegen squares to power up the lights and see if you can set off our Tesla coil! Fun for the whole family!

Families will be introduced to water sustainability and will learn how the BBC Microbit can be utilised in soil testing. You will get a chance to test your finished solution on a plant.

You will learn:

- Water sustainability
- Develop a flowchart checking moisture and how this could work
- Introduction to coding using the BBC Microbit
- How to utilise block coding to create from scratch/or edit an outline (depending on level of expertise.)



How to register?

Spaces are limited to 30 in total. This activity is suitable for Children's University Passport holders aged 7 -14, younger siblings welcome.

If you would like to find out more or to book a space please contact Jessica Worf at East London Children's University by emailing jessica.worf@15billionebp.org