

Te Mātāpuna Mātātahi | Children's University

Parent Information

This programme is aimed at helping children foster their love of learning, try new things and open their eyes to the endless possibilities that await them in their futures.

CU is run by Te Whare Wānaka o Aoraki | Lincoln University and Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha | University of Canterbury. The programme aims to reward tamariki for making positive choices in their learning journey. Children join the programme through a CU Puni (school or rūnanga). Tamariki who have chosen to be involved in CU can participate in a range of voluntary activities in order to gain credit towards certificates. At no point during these activities will tamariki be graded, rather they will be rewarded for the time and effort they put in.

Each participating child will receive their own passport and an online portal account. When they complete an activity they will receive a stamp in their passport to record their participation. The hours of learning accumulate over the year and when they reach set milestones they will be invited to attend a Graduation Ceremony. The graduation is a celebration of the positive choices the children have made and the effort they have put into their own education. Each child will have the opportunity to graduate once per year, and their hours roll over to the following year so that they can continue to build on their total.

CU strongly supports the engagement of the community and whānau in the child's learning journey. There will be many opportunities for the whole whānau to get involved with learning activities. The annual membership costs \$25 which includes the passport, access to the online portal, learning opportunities, gown hire and tickets for the graduation ceremony.

For more information about the programme please talk to your Children's University Coordinator, Kaye Royle or Seanne James.