

ASHILL VC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr Dan Pickard



Junior Duke Award

Led by Mrs Grigg

What is it?

A life skills award for children aged 3-13

<https://juniorduke.com/pages/what-is-the-junior-duke-award>

'Life can be hectic and we are often too busy to allow our children to learn to do things for themselves as it's much quicker, as an adult, to do things ourselves. Many six year olds ARE capable of making toast for their breakfast, they CAN tie their shoelaces and they CAN make it up a hill whilst carrying their own essentials. All they need is the time and space to explore, learn from their mistakes and learn to be safe.'

Why we offer it.

We believe it supports our school vision and values;

'grow and thrive, be confident in showing their strengths and achieve their ambitions in the world'.

Through learning new skills and increasing knowledge, children are developing independence, confidence, resilience and self-motivation.

After completing a level of the Junior Duke, many parents have said that they expect more from their children as they now know their children are so capable!

What level of commitment is required?

Each year group has a different set of challenges that need to be completed at home with the help of parents, grandparents and any other family or friends that are willing. Last year, children from Reception to Year 6 achieved their award by learning and improving their skills in areas such as First Aid, sport, cookery, eco knowledge and music.

There is a considerable commitment as children will need guidance and support to complete their challenges.

How much does it cost?

For the last 4 years, school have been happy to pay for children to take part in this scheme but, unfortunately, some of the funding received by the school has reduced and we are unable to pay the full amount per child. This year, we are asking parents to pay half, £5 and the school will pay the balance. We would urge parents to understand the commitment that this takes and to fully commit (Booklets will be ordered ASAP after we have confirmed who would like to take part).

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How is it recognised in school?

On completion of a level, a well-earned certificate and badge will be awarded and celebrated in school.

At the end of the school year, children who successfully complete an award are invited with their parents to attend an achievement event and enjoy cake and a drink.

How can I find out more?

Come along on **Monday 28th September after school** and meet Mrs Grigg **in the library**.

This is a chance to have a look at last year's booklets for each age group to see if this is something you (and your child) would be interested in. If there are any parents and children who have completed the awards willing to come along, you might be able to offer some words of wisdom or advice.

If you can't make this, please feel free to see Mrs Grigg at school or contact her at dukes@ashill.norfolk.sch.uk. We look forward to supporting those of you who commit to taking part.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Maria Grigg
HLTA