

Achievements & Developments

"University of fun A brilliant way to get children inspired."

The Sunday Times









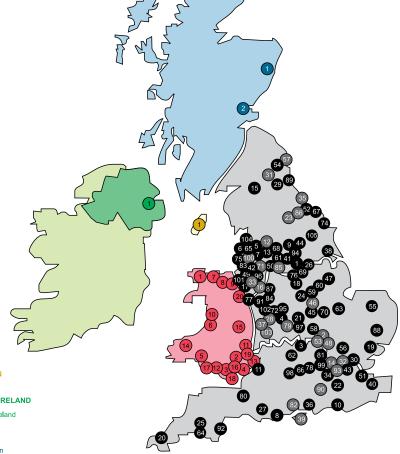


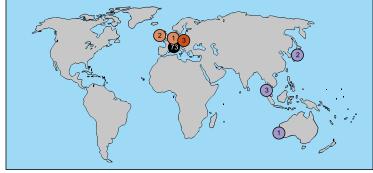
April 2012

Children's University Map April 2012

2 Bedfordshire 3 Bicester 4 Birmingham 5 Blackburn 6 Blackpool o Blackpool 7 Bolton 8 Bournemouth 9 Bradford & District 10 Brighton & Hove 11 Bristol 12 Burnley 13 Bury 14 Camden 15 Carlisle 16 Cheshire East 17 Chester 17 Chester 18 Chesterfield (Derbyshire) 19 Colchester 20 Cornwall 21 Coventry 22 Croydon 23 Darfington 24 Derby 25 Devon 26 Doncaster 27 Dorset 28 Dudley 28 Dudley 29 Durham 30 Enfield 31 Gateshead 32 Greenwich 33 Halton 34 Hammersmith and Fulham 35 Hartlepool 36 Havant 37 Herefordshire 38 Hull 39 Isle of Wight 40 Kent 41 Kirklees 42 Knowsley 43 Lambeth 44 Leeds 45 Leicester 47 Lincolnshire 48 Luton 49 Liverpool 50 Manchester 51 Medway 52 Middlesbrough 53 Milton Keynes 54 Newcastle upon Tyne 55 Norfolk 55 Norfolk 56 North Hertfordshire 57 North Tyneside 58 Northamptonshire 59 Nottingham 60 Nottinghamshire 61 Oldham ISLE OF MAN 62 Oxford 63 Peterborough EXISTING1 Isle of Man 63 Peterborough 64 Plymouth 65 Preston 66 Reading 67 Redcar and Cleveland 68 Rochdale 69 Rotherham 70 Rutland NORTHERN IRELAND EXISTING Northern Ireland SCOTLAND ● EXISTING 1 Aberdeen 2 East Lothian 70 Rutland 71 Salford 72 Sandwell 73 SCE Schools 74 Scarborough Borough 75 Sefton 76 Sheffield 77 Shropshire 78 Slough 79 Solihull 80 Somerset 11 South Hertfordshire WALES 1 Anglesey 2 Blaenau Gwent 3 Bridgend 4 Cardiff 5 Carmarthenshire 5 Carmarmensnire 6 Ceredigion 7 Conwy 8 Denbighshire 9 Flintshire 10 Gwyneth 11 Monmouthshire 12 Neath Port Talbot 80 Somerset 81 South Hertfordshire 82 Southampton 83 St Helens 84 Staffordshire 85 Stockport 86 Stockport 86 Stockton-on-Tees 87 Stoke 13 Newport 14 Pembrokeshire 88 Suffolk 89 Sunderland 14 Pembrokeshire 15 Powys 16 Rhondda Cynon Taff 17 Swansea 18 The Vale of Glamorgan 19 Torfaen

ENGLAND 1 Barnsley





73 CU Service Children's Education (SCE) Schools are in Belgium, Belize, Brunei, Canada, Cyprus, Falkland Islands, Gibraltar, Italy, The Netherlands and Turkey, with its head office in Germany.

20 Wrexham

90 Surrey 91 Telford and Wrekin 92 Torbay 93 Tower Hamlets 94 Wakefield

Introduction



Dr Sandy Bradbrook Chair



Ger GrausChief Executive

Children can only aspire to what they know exists."

CU Trust Trustees
Dr Sandy Bradbrook
Professor Sonia
Blandford
Rev Sarah Hayes
Richard Howard
Alec McGivan
Professor Mick
Waters
Sir David Winkley

Welcome to the Children's University's 5th birthday edition of *Achievements and Developments*. In April 2007 the Children's University (CU) was established by the CU Trust with the financial support of the Department for Education (DfE) and the Sutton Trust

The Chief Executive, Ger Graus, was appointed in April 2007 who set up the Children's University (CU) Trust head office in Manchester. The CU Trust's Chair is Dr Sandy Bradbrook. Since 2007, other funding partners have included JP Morgan, Nationwide, Fidelity Foundation, the Garfield Weston Foundation and the Charles Dunstone Charitable Trust.

The Children's University aims to promote social mobility by providing high quality, exciting and innovative learning activities and experiences outside normal school hours to children aged 7-14 (and 5 and 6 year olds with their families) and engaging the wider communities as learning partners in the realisation of this. 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, regardless of the background into which they were born. Although open to all, the CU aims particularly to reach children and young people facing socio-economic and educational disadvantage through the targeting of grants to, and the promotion of activities in, areas of deprivation. It is here, we believe, that the benefits of high quality provision and opportunities will be felt most.

An important principle of the Children's University is that participation is voluntary. It is intentionally something other than school – with a different feel, different activities and often a different location, staff and peer group. So the ultimate testament to the effectiveness of the Children's University is that young people give up their time to attend and that they begin to realise that learning can be "...a satellite navigation system to better places in life..." The significant increases in numbers over the past five years show they do indeed attend, and the comments and recommendations of parents, teachers and the children themselves show they are engaged and inspired too.

As a rule of thumb and to quote Abbey, a nine year old CU student "... Children's University learning is like 'grown-ups' university learning...!" - it is learning which can be 'connected' to higher education course provision as exemplified on www.ucas.com/students/coursesearch - in other

words: if you can aspire to a degree in it – whatever it is – the Children's University wants to know!

Each local Children's University has a link with a Higher Education Institution and is encouraged to appoint its own Chancellor. Local CU Chancellors include the authors Louis de Bernières and Gervase Phinn, retired Major General Christopher Callow CB OBE, polar explorer Dr Anthony Jinman, double Olympic medallist Nick Gillingham, educationalist Sir John Jones, wildlife artist Dr Jeremy Paul, former Secretary of State for Education Alan Johnson MP, TV personality Cheryl Baker and children's author and illustrator of 'Bob the Builder'fame Curtis Jobling. The CU Trust Chancellor is the children's author Michael Morpurgo. Children's University Patrons include Lord Lingfield, children's authors Hilary Robinson and Robert Muchamore, Brightside's Dr Tessa Stone, Fondazione Palazzo Strozzi Director General Dr James Bradburne, Liberty Director Shami Chakrabarti and and virtuoso cellist Julian Lloyd Webber.

CU Trustees include Trust founders Sir David Winkley and National Education Trust Chair Richard Howard as well as Professors Sonia Blandford and Mick Waters, Reverend Sarah Hayes, the BBC's Head of Outreach Alec McGivan and CU Trust Chair Dr Sandy Bradbrook.

Consecutive independent evaluations of the Children's University by Professor John MacBeath of the University of Cambridge recognise that "Children's University pupils attend better by virtue of the activities which enhance their school experience ...achieve better by virtue renewed self-confidence in their own potential... enjoy learning more because they extend their repertoire of interests and see learning in a new light." The third evaluation of the Children's University (2010) was published in January 2011.

Included in this 5th birthday edition of *Achievements and Developments* are key achievements of the CU Trust thus far and what it intends to do in the next year, as well as a *'CU by Numbers'* section – we are pretty certain you will be impressed by our numbers and our plans! Enjoy!

Dr Sandy Bradbrook Chair, CU Trust

Ger Graus
Chief Executive, Children's University

^{1 &#}x27;Evaluation of the Children's University 2010 – Third Report', Professor John MacBeath, University of Cambridge, January 2011 (ISBN: 978-0-9561319-4-2)

Achievements and Developments April 2012

Participation

By the end of 2011 there were 75 local CU centres in England, all with a clear focus on challenging socio-economic deprivation. This represents an increase of 66 centres or nearly 750% since the Children's University was founded in 2007.

- ✓ From 1st April 2012 there are 80 local Children's Universities in membership in England including the Service Children's Schools CU. Organisations taking the lead in managing local CU centres include Higher and Further Education Institutions, Academies, Free Schools, schools collaboratives and learning partnerships, charities and trusts, local authorities and private sector partners.
- ➤ Our aspiration is to have at least 85 CUs in England by December 2012, an increase of a further 10 local centres on the 2011 figures. The 'Children's University Map' already evidences significant progress towards this target we have received some 25 expressions of interest for possible local CU development to date. In addition to a growing Children's University presence in the Isle of Man, Scotland and Wales we are also looking to further develop the CU in Northern Ireland.
- 52 of the 86 most deprived areas of England² now have CU provision; all other CU centres are focused on local contextual deprivation.
- A further 10 Neighbourhood Renewal Unit areas will be targeted for inclusion during 2012/13.
- International CU Trust development is now in progress in the Netherlands and Malaysia with further expressions of interest from Belgium, the Republic of Ireland, Australia and Japan. This is in addition to the CU work undertaken with Service Children's Education and its schools across the globe.

"The Children's University has been invaluable in raising standards across the school."

- We would like to see the establishment of a CU Trust presence in at least the Netherlands and Malaysia by April 2013. Further international growth is anticipated over time.
- During 2011 99,107 children took part in

 ✓ 2,050,000 hours of CU learning in England –
 an increase of nearly 15,000 children and
 975,000 hours of additional provision from
 2010. By the end of 2011, 17,000 children in
 Scotland and Wales had taken part in 239,000
 hours of CU learning activities. The Isle of Man
 CU launched officially on 29th March 2012 and
 Northern Ireland's CU starts in September 2012.
- For 2012/13 the aim is to engage 110,000 children in 2,500,000 hours of CU learning in England. Figures in the Isle of Man, Scotland and Wales are also expected to increase whilst Children's University activity will grow in Northern Ireland.
- ✓ The CU Passport To Learning was developed in 2009 and 160,000 passports were issued by the end of March 2012.

 The Passports To Learning engage children individually as members of the Children's University and encourage them to access a wide range of high quality accredited learning at CU Learning Destinations. Each child, with his or her own passport, collects 'stamps' toward the award of Children's University Certificates.







Passports To Learning

... at ...

Learning Destinations

... lead to ...

Certificates and Graduations

² Neighbourhood Renewal Unit (NRU) areas www.neighbourhood.gov.uk

"Being in the Children's University significantly improves school attendance."

- We aim to have 200,000 passports in use in England by April 2013.
- A CU electronic passport or E-Passport has been developed during 2011 and is now available to assist schools in Children's University information management and provides evidence during Ofsted inspection visits. The E-Passport works alongside the Passport To Learning linking in with school management information systems and reducing bureaucracy.
- By April 2013, the aim is for 750 schools and Academies in England to be using the E-Passport on an annual licence.



- ✓ During 2011 the Children's University worked through its local centres with 2,900 schools and Academies in England, including primary, secondary and special schools. In the Birmingham CU the partnership includes the King Edward Foundation (of Independent and Grammar Schools).
- ➤ For 2012/13 the aim is to engage with 3,500 schools, Academies and Free Schools in England.
- ✓ The CU has made engagement with Higher Education a priority to raise the aspirations of children. An audit in December 2011 revealed that all CUs had a substantial link with a total of 64 different Higher Education Institutions including Teacher Training as well as 36 Further Education Institutions.

"The Children's
University makes
you want to go to
school more. The
courses are fun
courses ... and you
get the credits."



I love learning new things."

- ➤ During 2012/13 all local CU centres will continue to develop tangible links to Higher or Further Education Institutions, and particularly Teacher Training, with a clear focus on outcomes for children.
- ✓ 2,750+ Learning Destinations (public and restricted) have been validated by CU over the last three years, including local schools, Higher and Further Education Institutions, clubs, museums, libraries, galleries, theatres and stately homes for example Chatsworth House in Derbyshire, Millennium Point in Birmingham, the Wedgwood Museum in Stoke-on-Trent and the Houses of Parliament as well as FirstNews, B&Q and the BBC and internationally the Kunsthalle in Bielefeld (Germany) for Service Children's Schools, and even the Palazzo Strozzi in Florence (Italy).
- By April 2013 we aim to have in excess of 2,000 public Learning Destinations published on www.childrensuniversity.co.uk
- ✓ A new website www.childrensuniversity.co.uk will be launched on our 5th birthday: 16th April 2011. The development of the new website was funded by Fidelity Foundation. The website will provide easy access to Learning Destinations, CU networks and a 'Bank of Resources' for and by local CU centres, including CU Lectures and Master Classes.
- Over the next twelve months the website will be developed further and will include access to a Learning Destination 'App'



University of fun-run ... Ger Graus and Jessica Cheetwood with the 150,000th CU Passport at the Manchester Health Academy

"Achievement is significantly better at Key Stages 1 to 3 for children who participate in Children's University compared with non-attenders.1"



in December 2009. CU Chancellors and Patrons act as figureheads, role models and ambassadors for local CU centres - and include university academics, Vice Chancellors, senior figures from business and local government, broadcasters, sports personalities and authors. The CU Trust's Chancellor is the children's author Michael Morpurgo. CU Lectures aim to raise the aspirations of children by giving them the opportunity to experience a tailored lecture delivered by university students, staff or other providers often in a Higher Education setting.

the new initiatives of CU Lectures and CU **Chancellors and Patrons were introduced**

➤ During 2012/13 we will continue the development of CU Lectures, CU Master Classes and Seminars whilst encouraging all local Children's University centres to appoint local Chancellors and Patrons.



"I love the lectures!"

- ✓ In 2011 we started to pilot the expansion of CU provision to 5 and 6 year olds with their families (and carers). 7,200 5 and 6 year olds have so far participated in the pilot for 76,500 hours of CU learning activities.
- ✓ At the 4th annual CU conference in December 2011 the CU Volunteering scheme³ and its Passport To Volunteering were introduced.
- Both pilot projects will > continue in 2012 and following published findings will be officially launched in 2013.



Curriculum and innovation

- ✓ The range of curriculum provision has developed significantly in the last year. Examples of provision include: Outdoor and Adventure, Expo Enterprise Studies, Robotics, Masterchef, Nature Detective Trail, Museum Club. Arts-based projects are promoted through the development of partnerships such as those with Stagecoach, Shakespeare 4 Kidz, In Harmony, Music First, as well as the Kunsthalle (Bielefeld), the University of Paderborn (Germany) and the Palazzo Strozzi (Italy). Local CUs have elements of the expressive and creative arts as part of their provision. 2011developments have included BBC Visitor Centres and Big Screens. FirstNews Junior Journalists and B&Q's Kids Can Do It and Job Done.
- > Curriculum development and innovation will continue during 2012/13 as will the further development of learning partnerships with organisations such as the BBC, B&Q, Nationwide, FirstNews and the Ministry of Defence as part of the Service Children's Education CU. Achievement for All 3As will continue to support and actively promote the work of the Children's University. Examples of what works really well and why will be published on www.childrensuniversity.co.uk
- - 3 'Planning for Volunteering Guide to Children's University Volunteering' by Ger Graus and Lynne Upton, Children's University and John MacBeath, University of Cambridge, 2011 (978-0-9561319-6-6)



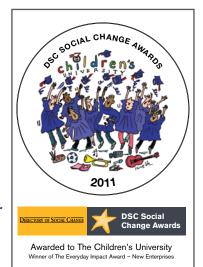
B B C

FirstNews

"The further children engage with Children's University, the better their attendance and achievement.\"

Quality assurance

- ✓ The Children's University has developed a robust quality assurance framework,
 Planning for Learning⁴, to ensure that the highest quality of learning is evident in all CU activities and in all learning provision at Learning Destinations accredited by the CU.
- ✓ During 2011/12, 400 CU Planning for Learning Validators have been trained to quality assure Learning Destination provision, totalling an 'army' of 900 CU Validators since 2009.
- ➤ By April 2013 a further 300 CU Validators will have been trained to provide a total capacity of 1,200 in England.
- Planning for Learning will continue to provide the quality benchmark for Learning Destinations and local CU centres' provision.
- ✓ The Children's University has also developed a comprehensive organisational quality assurance process for its centres, Planning for Excellence⁵, published in 2010. All local CUs will be registered for the programme and 40 have already reached Emerged, Established or Advanced status.
- ➤ All local CUs currently registered are expected to reach at least the first phase of the organisational quality assurance, Emerged status, in the next 12 months.
- In
 December
 2011 the
 Children's
 University
 won the
 Directory
 of Social
 Change
 Award –
 Everyday
 Impact:
 New
 Enterprises.



Project funding and inward investment

- ✓ Since 2007 the total in income procured by the CU Trust is £4,252,265. This includes £1,466,725 (or 35%) of non-government funding through external grants, donations, sponsorship and income procured. Major funding partners have included Sutton Trust, JP Morgan, Nationwide, Fidelity Foundation, the Garfield Weston Foundation and the Charles Dunston Charitable Trust.
- ✓ Grants awarded by the CU Trust since 2007 total £1,538,398 to 64 local CUs averaging just over £24,000 each. Grants awarded are either for start-up or expansion funding. Every £1 of CU Trust project funding has generated £2.69 of local investment in CU centres from local government, schools, Further and Higher Education and business, totalling £4,138,291. All CU centres which received funding are now self-sustaining.
- ✓ The average Children's University grantfunded child-per-hour cost for 2011 was £1.63. During 2007 and the early years of the CU Trust this figure was £2.95 per hour per participating 7 to 14 year old.
- The CU Trust will continue to target project funding at NRU areas and other areas with contextual relative deprivation. We also aim to at least match our achievement in the last year of generating £2.69 of inward investment in local Children's University provision for every £1 of project funding support received from the CU Trust.

"Congratulations on a job well done and as a parent I am happy to spout off to all and sundry the benefit the Children's University brings the children and our wider community."

^{4 &#}x27;Planning for Learning – A Framework for Validating Learning' by John MacBeath, University of Cambridge, and Ger Graus, Children's University, 2011 (ISBN 978-0-9561319-0-4)

^{5 &#}x27;Planning for Excellence - Children's University Handbook for Organisational Quality Assurance' by Ger Graus, Peter Eavers, Children's University and Joanne Moore, Quality in Study Support and Extended Services, 2010 (ISBN: 978-0-9561319-1-1)

Other plans for 2012/13:

- > Further develop the website
 - www.childrensuniversity.co.uk to include: Learning Destinations, signposting of learning provision and web-links to other online learning; the publication of 'Case Stories' of what works really well and why; 'broadcasting' CU Lectures and providing further information for local centres on leadership, management, including CU Chancellors and volunteering ... and the development of a CU Learning Destination 'App'.
- Continue to expand CU provision by piloting CU access for 5 and 6 year olds, focussing specifically on family learning (including carers), working in partnership with organisations from the voluntary, community and business sectors.
- ➤ Pilot the CU Volunteering scheme including the Passport To Volunteering CU-wide and locally take a lead in the Government's 'Big Society' and 'National Citizenship' agendas.



- Widen the CU network of partnerships to enhance the quality of provision for children, particularly evidenced through the Learning Destinations.
- Continue support for local CU centres through (inter)national and regional meetings, the annual conference, enabling peer mentoring and sharing of good practice. CU training will also continue, specifically in the areas of Planning for Learning, Planning for Excellence, the E-Passport and the CU Volunteering scheme.

- "Our data shows a direct correlation between success out of the classroom and performance in school."
- Engage further in research and evaluation through Professor John MacBeath of the University of Cambridge, the Department for Education and the Fischer Family Trust whose combined work will continue to contribute to the CU Trust's profile. The next evaluation report on the work of the Children's University will be published in December 2012.
- ➤ Publish CU Trust and local newsletters and examples of "...what works...?" in 'Case Stories' in areas such as: local CU management, curriculum innovation; Higher and Further Education partnerships; leadership and management in CU schools and Academies and children's involvement in directing their own learning.
- Raise aspirations and improve attainment and achievements specifically in English, Mathematics and ICT of the most able 9-14 year olds through the introduction of the Children's University Challenge centres (CUC) which will be run in partnership with Higher Education and Teacher Training Institutions through existing local CUs. The CU Trust will actively seek to procure external funding and support to deliver this aspect. In future years, the CUC programme may seek to extend its provision beyond the original 'core' offer.
- ➤ Raise the profile of the work of the Children's University and continue to generate income and procure funding through membership and a range of other sources to offset the increases in costs essential to its growth. The appointment in 2012 of our DfE funded CU Fundraising Manager and Publicity and Media Consultant will aid significantly in the CU Trust's capacity building.
- Further progress the development of the CU Trust's international presence.
- > For any further ideas (and there will be many!)
 please visit www.childrensuniversity.co.uk



numbers

£8,390,556

the total amount of income procured since 2007, both nationally and locally, as a direct result of CU Trust grants to local CU centres

£4,252,265

the amount of income procured nationally by the CU Trust since 2007. This includes £1,466,725 (or 35%) of non-government funding

£4,138,291

the amount locally generated as a direct result of CU Trust grants to local CU centres

2,050,000

hours of CU learning in England in 2011 by 7–14 year olds

£1,538,398

in CU Trust grants awarded to 64 local CUs for start-up or expansion funding, averaging £24,000 per grant. All CU centres which received funding are now self-sustaining

239,000

hours of learning in Scotland, Wales and the Isle of Man for **17,000** CU participants

160,000

Passports To Learning in use since 2009

99,107

7 to 14 year old CU participants in 2011 as well as **7,200** 5 and 6 year olds with their families (and carers) for **76,500** hours of learning

2,900

schools and Academies are engaged with CU in England alone

2,750

Learning Destinations in total of which **1,750** are publicly accessible by children with their Passport To Learning

900

CU Validators trained to quality assure *Learning Destinations* across the family of CUs

100

Higher and Further Education Institutions working with the CU in England, including Cambridge and Oxford Universities

80

local CU centres in England and a further **25** across the Isle of Man, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales with further developments planned in the Netherlands, Malaysia, Belgium, Japan, Australia and the Republic of Ireland

16

April 2007 is the Children's University's 'birthday'

10

key findings in Professor John MacBeath's (University of Cambridge) *Evaluation of the Children's University 2010*¹ evidencing the difference CU learning makes to children's achievements and standards

9

local CU centres in England by the end of 2007

5

Children's University's age in 2012 (only slowly growing up!)

£2.69

of inward investment in local CU provision for every £1 of CU Trust project funding

2

imPOSSIBLE is two letters too long at the Children's University

£1.63

the average Children's University grant-funded child-per-hour cost for 2011

1

the individual child we try to get it right for – EVERY TIME!

Children's University Chancellors, Patrons and other friends ...



- Children's author 1 Michael Morpurgo
 - Lord Lingfield 2
- Julian Lloyd Webber 3
- Professor Mick Waters 4
- Mei Sim Lai 5 Master of the Worshipful Company of World Traders
- Dr James Bradburne 6 Director General Palazzo Strozzi Florence
 - Children's author 7 Hilary Robinson
 - Author 8 Louis de Bernières
 - Olympic medallist 9 **Nick Gillingham**
- Head of BBC Outreach 10 Alec McGivan
- Professor 11 John MacBeath University of Cambridge
 - Sir Tim Brighouse 12
 - Director of Liberty 13 Shami Chakrabarti
 - Mum Janet Beckford 14
 - Social entrepreneur 15 Mo Isap
 - Author Gervase Phinn 16
 - Wildlife artist 17 Dr Jeremy Paul
 - Children's author 18 **Robert Muchamore**
 - Alan Johnson MP 19
- Conductor and RNCM 20
- student Duncan Ward



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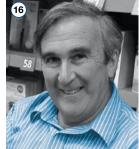




















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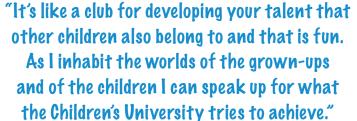












Michael Morpurgo Children's University Chancellor