

Dear Parents,

We are excited to share that Fairgreen will once again be supporting students taking part in the **Junior Duke Programme**, an international life skills award programme for students from Pre-KG to Grade 7. This will be Fairgreen's 7th year participating! Please watch this [video link](#) for more information.

The Junior Duke Award is designed to develop independence, resilience, confidence, and self-motivation, qualities that align closely with the IB Learner Profile and Approaches to Learning (ATL) skills. The programme offers 10 progressive levels, beginning with Nano Duke (Pre-KG) and progressing through to Gold Senior Duke (Grade 7). Each level includes 14 challenges, with students completing **10 challenges (or 7 for Early Years)** to successfully complete their award.

Some examples of challenges include:

- Cooking a meal
- Budgeting
- Learning first aid
- Tying knots
- Building fitness through exercise
- Planning trips using public transport
- ...and many more!

The programme requires commitment, effort, and time at home. Upon completion, students will proudly receive a certificate and badge during our Junior Duke Assembly.

For students continuing from last year: If challenges were not completed, they may choose to finish them this year or begin a new level (please note that the previous incomplete level will not be validated).

Why join the Duke Awards?

- Builds independence and resilience
- Strengthens family bonds
- Creates a strong sense of community

How to sign up:

Please click on this [sign-up link](#), and read the information on the form. The online payment is due by October 2. Once payments are complete and we have received the journals, we will hand them out directly to the children who have signed up.

For any questions, feel free to email me at aodonnell@fairgreen.ae. You can also find more official information about the programme [[JD official website](#)].

Thank you and kind regards,



Amy O'Donnell
Junior Duke Lead & STEM Teacher



**JUNIOR
DUKE**

LIFE SKILLS AWARD FOR CHILDREN AGED 3–13

DEVELOPING CONFIDENCE, INDEPENDENCE AND RESILIENCE





CARING FOR
THE
ENVIRONMENT



COOKING



HOUSEHOLD
CHORES

JUNIOR DUKE AWARD

WORLD-LEADING CHILDREN'S LIFE SKILLS
AWARD

DEVELOP CONFIDENCE, INDEPENDENCE, RESILIENCE AND WELL-BEING

At our school, we are offering the well-established Junior Duke Award to our pupils. It is a life skills Award for children aged around 3 to 13. It helps children to learn to look after themselves and raises awareness of cultures, traditions and how to appreciate and protect our world.

For each of the primary-school year groups, there is an age-appropriate workbook which has clearly explained challenges. Thereafter, there is a portal for the two Senior Duke levels. There is one level per year.

Although some of the skills may be touched on in school, it is hoped that children will spend time completing the challenges with parents, friends and grand parents.

On completion, the school will award the children with their well-earned certificates and badges.

The ten different levels:

- Nano Duke
- Micro Duke
- Silver Mini Duke
- Gold Mini Duke
- Bronze Junior Duke
- Silver Junior Duke
- Gold Junior Duke
- Platinum Junior Duke
- Silver Senior Duke
- Gold Senior Duke

WHY CHOOSE TO TAKE THE JUNIOR DUKE CHALLENGE?



In our fast-paced world, as adults, many of us find that it's simplest and quickest to do things for our children rather than giving them the time to learn, try, fail, make a mess then, finally, master the skills. We must embrace the madness and the mess because children aren't little for long!

It's also tempting to help children as soon as they look as though they are about to fail because we want them to feel success rather than the frustration of not managing a skill...yet.

That is why we are choosing to offer the Junior Duke Award to our pupils this year. We would really like your help, time and guidance with it to allow children to get out of their comfort zones to learn to grasp skills like washing their sheets, cooking dinner, doing the shopping and building fires.

We know that sometimes it's hard to stand back and allow them to make mistakes (especially if they may be in danger!) and to give them the responsibility to do certain things independently, perhaps failing a few times on the way to success. However, we also know how empowered children feel once they learn new skills and, as we know, future employers look to employ well-rounded people with hard skills as well as the soft skills required for many tasks in the Junior Duke!

Once a child has learned a skill such as how to make a cup of tea, it's something they should do regularly forever more. Therefore, we hope you will help by gently pushing your child to learn new tasks and to keep working to improve on them.

Who knows, they will hopefully discover they have new passions and talents!

