



# Learning with Children's University

## About this Children's University research

Researchers from the Peter Underwood Centre (The University of Tasmania) and the Australian National University, visited three Tasmanian schools in 2023 and spent a morning in each school working with members of Children's University to answer three important questions:

- What is good about Children's University?
- What could we do to improve Children's University?
- Should learning always be fun? (We had a debate about this)

Sharon, Megan and Becky say a big thank you to the 37 children and young people who took part! We have summarised as many of your ideas as possible and included them in this poster. Thanks also to the school staff who helped make our workshops happen.

This study has been approved by the University of Tasmania Human Research Ethics Committee, project number: H0017809

*You can make new friends*



## What's good about Children's University?

- There are lots of activities to keep you busy and stop you getting bored.
- You learn different things to school, and some things will actually help you at school.
- You can choose your activities and learn at your own pace.
- You can get hours and graduate – you will feel proud and happy.
- You can go to new places and learn new things.
- You feel connected to a community.
- Doing new things helps you feel more confident and encourages you to follow your dreams.

*you get to do a lot of fun activitys and you never get bored.*

*This is not a group  
It's a community*



## What could change about Children's University?

- We love feeling connected to a community and we would like more opportunities to spend time with each other, like camps, activity hubs, excursions, websites and apps, planning days run by children, and even our own campus.
- We would like more activities so there is more choice of different kinds of learning and even more challenges.
- We would like more opportunities to learn from other children as well as adults.
- We would like to go to more places, such as visits to museums, the university, and adults in their workplaces.

*Your Future*

## Our thoughts about learning

- All learning can be made fun.
- Learning that is difficult is not fun, but it can be satisfying and rewarding.
- Sometimes learning is necessary, but not fun.
- Kids should not give up and should ask for help when they need it.
- When learning is fun, people stay engaged and it is easier to learn.
- Learning that starts out too hard can become fun once it is mastered.

*Gets you up and going*