**Steps for Bringing an Award Centre to your School**

The Award is a development framework designed for young people aged 14-24, helping them build essential skills and experiences for the rest of their lives. Research has shown that youth involvement in youth organizations significantly enhances skill development and career prospects.

**As parents, you are invaluable ambassadors and active proponents of your children's educational experiences.** We understand from experience that teachers and principals may not always be aware of all the benefits and opportunities available to students. They greatly appreciate receiving feedback from parents and, notably, from the youth themselves about what is valuable and interesting to them.

This material is here to support you in advocating for the establishment of an Award Centre in your child’s school. By doing so, you can provide vital support and encouragement, ensuring your child and their peers have the best chance of success. An Award Centre allows young people to embark on their Award alongside their peers, with guidance from a dedicated Award Leader such as your child’s teacher.

We believe that students’ school experiences should be more than just their academic classes. By having dedicated mentors guiding them to discover their passions and purposes, they will be set up for success. The Award framework provides this mentorship, helping students to explore their interests, develop new skills, and contribute to their communities.

If you’re passionate about bringing the Award to your school, we invite you to help champion a new Award Centre. This guide will assist you in rallying support from other parents and youth, and in approaching the school to get started. Your involvement can make a significant difference in successfully launching an Award Centre and providing enriching opportunities for our youth.

Have questions? Reach out to us at [support@dukeofed.org](mailto:support@dukeofed.org).

**Get Started Here!**

**Step 1 – Getting support**

To successfully launch an Award Centre at your child's school, it’s important to gather support from the community.

* **Reach Out to Others:** Connect with friends and parents/guardians of your child’s peer group to gauge their interest in advocating for an Award Centre. Parent councils are a great place to start to gather support for an Award Centre!

**Step 2 – Identify Prospective Award Team**

To successfully establish an Award Centre at your child/ward's school, it’s essential to find adults at the school willing to support and deliver the program. Here’s how you can gather that support:

* **Identify Potential Award Leaders:** Look for adults within the school who might be interested in helping, such as staff, teachers, school councillors, coordinators, and other adults at the school who would be willing to help!
* **Reach Out:** Speak with these individuals to see if they are willing to commit their time to deliver the Award program. Share the benefits and impact of the Award to inspire their participation.

**Step 3 – Speak to your school**

Once you’ve found some community support, reach out to your school to bring the Award to their attention.

The Parent Toolkit has some great resources and information on how you can reach out to other parents and guardians as well as contacting your school to bring the Award to their attention!