

THE SPARK PROGRAM



SPARK is a students' enrichment program designed to unleash the true potential of students. This interactive and high impact training focuses on vision setting, developing leadership skills, effective communication, acquiring learning skills and appreciating nature.

In 2019, Priyanka, led a team of volunteers to handle Year 6 students in SJK (T) Jalan Sungai in Penang just 2.5 months away before their first public exam. The students who largely comprised of the B40 segment did not like Mathematics and only 3 out of 20 students passed their Mathematics trial exam at the point of intervention. They were also not faring any better in their other subjects. Priyanka and a team of five volunteers helped mentor them in Mathematics and they attended a free 2-day SPARK Students Success Program, which brought about dramatic results from 15% to 89.5% passes in their UPSR Mathematics paper. They too achieved drastic improvement in their other subjects as well. Their parents were so grateful, and they began celebrating and admiring their respective children.

Another example is Kavin Kubenthiran, a 17- year-old, who attended the SPARK Student Success Program in January 2020. He had communication issues with his parents and was rebellious. His academic performance was sliding but all these have changed now. He now shows greater respect and love for his parents. Now, his academic performance has reversed for the better. His family is enveloped with happiness and peace.

STUDENT TESTIMONIAL

“I, Suria Vikram, am a beneficiary of Ms. Priyanka. I first met Ms. Priyanka when I attended a SPARK program hosted by her. I, alongside many others attended this event. This program aimed to help students with low or no self-confidence & motivation to perform well in studies. I learned a lot from her. The first thing that I learned was how to remember important information. One way is the landmark system where information is encoded according to location and recalled effectively. While I was there I also learned to map out what would I like to become in the future. Ms. Priyanka was so inspirational during this session up until I felt that I too was going to achieve my dreams and bravely changed my ambition from an architect to a star of the television world. Most of all, during this program Ms. Priyanka showed so much love and care towards me and the others until she became our confidante. I felt that I could confide, and she would try to help me. She even encouraged me to write a letter to my parents regarding my change of ambition. I feel that I have a true and loyal friend.”



ABOUT DIANA AWARD



What is Diana Award?

The Diana Award was established in 1999 by the British Government who wanted to continue Princess Diana's legacy by establishing a formal way to recognize young people who were going above and beyond the expected in their local communities. In 2006, Diana Award became an independent charity, which enabled us to develop into a fully fledged

youth-led movement. The Diana Award is the most prestigious accolade a young person aged 9 to 25 years can receive for their social action or humanitarian work. This award is given out by the charity of the same name and has the support of both her sons, The Duke of Cambridge and The Duke of Sussex.

Foreword from Tessy Ojo, CEO of The Diana Award

“We congratulate all our new Diana Award recipients who are changemakers for their generation. We know by receiving this honour, they will inspire more young people to get involved in their communities and begin their own journey as active citizens. For over twenty years, The Diana Award has valued and invested in young people encouraging them to continue to make positive changes in their communities and lives of others.”

Nomination Process

Award recipients have been put forward by adults who know the young people in a professional capacity and recognized their efforts as a positive contribution to society. Through a rigorous nomination process, these nominators had to demonstrate the nominee's impact in five key areas: Vision, Social Impact, Inspiring Others, Youth Leadership, and Service Journey. There are 13 Diana Award Judging Panels representing each UK region or nation and a further three panels representing countries outside of the UK. Each panel consist of three judges; one young person, an education or youth work professional, and a business or government representative. Nominations are judged using the Criteria Guide and Scoring Guide which have been created to measure quality of youth social action.

