

ASDAN Activities Award and Peer Tutoring Award

Introduction

What is the ASDAN Activities Award?

The ASDAN Activities Award (AAA) is a new Award which offers accreditation for young people's achievement of their own personal challenges, alongside skills development. It is a flexible and individualised Award which forms part of their Short Course programme. The Short Course Awards are targeted at 13-19 year olds, although there are no age restrictions. The peer sharing and support elements of the award make it ideal for group activities. It is also recommended for accreditation of short term or stand alone volunteering activities such as summer holiday volunteering (e.g. supporting the Summer Reading Challenge) or taking part in performances, exhibitions etc.

What is the Peer Tutoring Award?

The ASDAN Peer Tutoring Award (PT) is designed to recognise young people who as volunteers, offer peer support to others doing their Activities Award. The Peer Tutoring Award offers additional recognition usually for older young people who are taking on a leadership role within their group. They might have already completed their own AAA or be leading the group on a specific activity as part of achieving their own AAA.

Who runs the ASDAN Activities Award and Peer Tutoring Award?

The ASDAN Activities and Peer Tutoring Awards are run by the Awards Scheme Development and Accreditation Network (ASDAN). A charitable organisation established to develop reward schemes recognising learners' success in a range of skills and settings from Entry Level to University Entrance.

What do the ASDAN Activities Award and Peer Tutoring Award consist of?

The ASDAN Activities and Peer Tutoring Awards are straightforward to achieve and there is minimum paperwork for both young people and support workers.

Participants work from an Award book which lists a range of example activities. Young people can select from a range of mainly sporting or arts activities or develop their own activities. In general, the Award is completed over 30 hours however young people can also be accredited for 10 hours or 60 hours.

A Portfolio of Evidence is collated containing evidence of planning and reviewing, a summary of key skill development, a record of progress and pieces of evidence for each activity.

The Achievement Award leads to a self standing certificate which provides learner credits towards more extensive qualifications offered by ASDAN, some of which carry GCSE and/or A level equivalence.

Credits from successful completion of the ASDAN Activities Award can count towards:

- CoPE (Certificate of Personal Effectiveness)
- ASDAN Bronze, Silver, Gold and FE Awards
- Youth Achievement Award.

What are credits worth?

- 10 hours of activity is worth 1 credit
- 30 hours of activity is worth 3 credits
- 60 hours of activity is worth 6 credits

If young people are working towards a 60-hour, 6-credit Award, half of their Award can be for peer mentoring or leading activities on behalf of other young people.

The process

1. Young people select one or more activities which they plan to complete over a 10, 30 or 60 hour period. Two of these activities will need to be recorded in greater detail using the recording sheets in the Award book. (If the young person is planning to take part in one longer activity, they will need to break this down into at least two parts).
2. They fill in an Activity Plan for each of the two activities in their Award book.
3. At the end of the two selected activities they fill in the Activity Reviews in their Award book.
4. The Award Co-ordinator signs both the Plan and the Review to confirm that the activity has been completed.
5. The young person records all of their activities on their Record of Progress (in the Award book).
6. The young person reflects on their skills development in their Summary of Achievement and Personal Statement (in the Award book).
7. Evidence of each activity (photos, artwork, diaries etc) is collected in the Award book itself, or in a portfolio alongside the Award book.
8. The Award book is reviewed and signed by the Award Co-ordinator.

The following pages give a case study, showing the kind of information required from young people for the ASDAN Award.

Case study of young person using ASDAN Activities Award in a library

Background

Nabeela wants to be involved in volunteering at the library. She's a keen reader and good at art. She joins the stock selection group, choosing books in consultation with other young people and helps to display the new stock when it arrives. She also gets involved in doing a presentation about library activities at a local school with the aim of recruiting more members. Nabeela also joins the teenage reading group for two sessions but decides it's not for her.

In order to complete the ASDAN Activities Award, Nabeela would fill in the following pages in her record book:

- Record of progress
- Activities page
- Evidence store
- Activity plan 1
- Activity review 1
- Activity plan 2
- Activity review 2
- Summary of achievement
- Personal Statement

An example of how she might fill in these pages follows.

Record of progress

	Activity	Plan	Review	Hours	Credits
Art	x			4	
Music					
Other – presentation	x	x	x	10	
Other – stock selection	x	x	x	12	
Other – reading group	x			4	
Total	4	2	2	30	3

Activities page

List of my activities	Hours spent	What I thought of each activity
Art – cartoon for PowerPoint	4	Loved it
Presentation	10	Scary but good
Stock selection	12	Fun but hard work at times
Reading group	4	A bit boring

Evidence store

Nabeela chose to put all her evidence in a folder and include it with her record book. The evidence she included was:

- Sketches for the art work
- A CD of the PowerPoint presentation
- Photos of her doing the presentation
- Surveys from young people about the books they wanted
- Book reviews cut out of publisher's catalogues
- A photo of the display of the new books
- Her review of the book that she read as part of the reading group

Activity Plan 1

Name of activity	Presentation about library activities in local comprehensive school
What I am planning to do for this activity	Make a PowerPoint presentation about library volunteering and deliver a presentation at the school
Who else is involved	Abdul, Anita and Jack
What else I need to do for this activity e.g. equipment, information about Health and Safety etc)	Check the technology available in the school, Put PowerPoint on CD or memory stick, Make sure parents have given consent for me to be out of school
What can be used for evidence	PowerPoint, Photos of the day, A copy of my speech

Activity Review 1

Name of activity	Presentation about library activities in local comprehensive school
The parts of the activity I am most pleased with	The PowerPoint, especially the artwork
The parts of the activity I could improve on	My delivery of the speech – I talked too fast and wasn't loud enough
Skills I have developed	Working with others Improving my learning Communication Problem solving
Award Group comments	"Nabeela's art work was cool!" "I enjoyed working with Nabeela. She was really reliable."
Award Co-ordinator comments	Well done, Nabeela. You've really developed your confidence during this task. I hope you won't feel so shy about speaking in public now and your artwork was fantastic.

Summary of Achievement

During my activities I have achieved the following	
Working with others: Example 1	Abdul and I worked together on the artwork for the PowerPoint presentation.
Working with others: Example 2	Sara and I choose the books for the display for Black History month.
Improving my own learning: Example 1	I'd never spoken to a big group of people before. I learned to project my voice.
Improving my own learning: Example 2	I learned how to use the library stock ordering system and learned how to research which new books were coming out using publisher's catalogues.
Problem solving: Example 1	We couldn't take our laptop to the school because it wasn't insured. We tried several approaches but eventually took the presentation on a memory stick and used the school's equipment.
Problem solving: Example 2	We hadn't got enough money to buy all of the books that people wanted so we organised a vote to choose the most popular ones and we set up a system to borrow some of the others from the library.

Personal Statement

I am proud to have achieved	The PowerPoint Speaking in public Making the display of new books
I could improve on	My public speaking – speak slower
My future plans	I'm going to join the marketing team for the new HeadSpace project and do some more artwork for displays

How do we run the ASDAN Activities Award and Peer Tutoring award in libraries?

The ASDAN Activities Award is ideally run by someone who has been on ASDAN Short Course Award training, but training is not mandatory. You could undertake the training and run the Award yourself, or you could link up with a youth agency that is already experienced in running the Award.

Most specific library activities will not be listed in the Activities Award book. However, some arts activities may be relevant, e.g. art, music, DJ-ing, film-making and photography. Activities such as reading or choosing stock, would come under the heading 'other' in the Award book (see the example at the end of this section).

You would support the young people in completing their chosen activities, collecting evidence and filling in the Award book.

How are ASDAN Activities and Peer Tutoring Awards assessed and moderated?

The Award Co-ordinator checks, and signs to verify that all of the activities have been completed and that evidence has been collected.

There is no external moderation for this Award.

Once the young people's achievement has been verified, the Award Co-ordinator submits a list of names to ASDAN via the ASDAN website and certificates are issued.

How much does it cost?

Training to be an Award Co-ordinator costs: approximately £79.00 plus VAT (approximately £92.83) per delegate (including refreshments and workshop pack). Additional delegates pay a reduced rate of approximately £58.00 plus VAT (approximately £68.15)

ASDAN Centre Registration for Short Courses is approximately £50.00 + VAT (approximately £58.75) per year. Visit www.asdan.org.uk for further details about centre registration.

The cost per young person is: approximately £4.75 for an Activities Award book.

Useful contacts

Information on the ASDAN Activities Award and other short courses can be found on the ASDAN website at: www.asdan.org.uk