



'AQILAH INSYIRAH BTE ABDUL R

Tay Eng Soon Gold Medal 2020

SECOND CHANCE MADE GOOD

From a frequent absentee in her secondary school days to a top graduate now, 'Aqilah's life was never short of ups and downs. When she first enrolled in ITE in 2014, a lack of interest in automotive technology and poor attendance resulted in her dropping out to work in the Food & Beverage line for two years. At work, it struck her that a good education can lead to a better future and this wake-up call urged her to re-enroll in ITE in 2018. Since then, she aspires to be a role model for her siblings and a strong pillar of support for her parents.

With renewed confidence, 'Aqilah seized every opportunity to learn in ITE and even mentored fellow classmates. She led in a group competition, participated actively in overseas exchange programmes, and community outreach and engagement events. As the Vice-President of the Robotics Club, she also championed the use of programming in robots to enthuse secondary school students to choose engineering as their course of choice.

Service at Heart

"When I entered ITE, everything was new and confusing, but I grew to like my course. Studying became fun. This course has definitely opened up many options for me to choose from, after graduation. It is also in ITE that I discovered that I enjoy service learning such as repairing wheelchairs for the less abled. My dream is to use my engineering skills to give back to society one day."

After ITE

'Aqilah is pursuing an Engineering Diploma at Temasek Polytechnic.

Top Achievements

- She is the Team leader of a group project 'My Smart Key AMD" that won the Merit Award (Technology Category) in the 7th National Assistive & Rehabilitation Technologies - Student Innovation Challenge 2019. This competition challenges students to develop innovative devices and solutions that will benefit the elderly and persons with disabilities.
- As a Chip Eng Seng Study Grant recipient, 'Aqilah's diligence put her on the Directors' List in 2019 and 2018 for all school terms and she graduated with a perfect GPA score of 4.0.
- She was also awarded the Service Star Award (Gold) in 2019. She was also an active member of the International Student Seminar 2019's Student Social Media Team, coming up with interesting posts to promote the seminar.