



Lee Kuan Yew Model Student Award



**Ammar Sufi
Bin Mohammad Yusri**

*Higher Nitec in
IT Applications Development
ITE College Central*

Out of the Darkness

Secondary school was a tough period for Ammar. An introvert, Ammar had few friends and had to deal with family and personal problems. He developed anxiety and depression and was unable to focus on his N-level exams. When he applied for ITE in 2020, he was unsuccessful. Though demoralised, Ammar realised he had to step up his game. He spent a year working and picked up soft skills like communication and teamwork. In 2021, he applied again and was successful. This became the turning point for Ammar.

Determined to give his all, Ammar went out of his way to talk to others. He soon made many friends who became his support network: "Each person I have met taught me a value in life and it keeps me going." Ammar also took the chance to immerse himself in a variety of activities – from community work and CCAs to participating in dialogues, workshops and conferences. Despite his packed schedule, Ammar displayed the same level of commitment and enthusiasm both in and out of the classroom. His appreciation for others, deep sense of responsibility, proactiveness and leadership qualities have earned him accolades. He is proud to have gone from being, in his words, "the worst student in (his) secondary school", to becoming a top student at ITE and finding joy in life.

From the Heart

"It was at an event when I realised I enjoyed community work. This little boy thanked me for helping him with a big, bright smile on his face. That melted my heart and made me so happy! I believe we should be kind to people because you never know what someone is facing or thinking. If I am there for them now, they will be there for me in the future. I am also grateful for the connections I have built in ITE. Without my friends and teachers, I do not think I would be where I am today. I appreciate life because of them."

Life after ITE

Ammar is currently pursuing a Diploma in Information Technology at Singapore Polytechnic. He hopes to use his skills in IT to empower and help others.

Top Achievements

- Despite having no prior knowledge of IT Applications Development when he entered ITE, Ammar's diligence saw him achieve an excellent GPA of 3.966.
- Ammar served as President of the ITE College Central Library Club and held leadership roles in projects and events, such as the NYAA Community Leadership Initiative Project, ITE Student Leaders Forum, and contributed as Class Representative.
- He sought to grow and broaden his perspectives by participating in a variety of programmes, dialogues and conferences. These include the Asia Pacific Regional Rotaract Conference, US Embassy-ITE Alumni Mentoring Programme, Singapore Business Leadership Foundation Programme, and dialogues with political holders.
- Ammar's passion for community work earned him the ITE Service Star Diamond Award in 2023.
- His excellent work ethics impressed his internship company so much, they offered him a scholarship for his polytechnic studies. Ammar almost single-handedly improved and managed the entire website for the company while he was there.