

SOCIOLOGY

I choose health and social care to study at AS and A level as I am interested in people, their health, well being and how their lifestyle and choices affect their future. From my study at AS level I have become increasingly interested in society and social groups and would very much like to study sociology in your university. I am passionate about individual's rights and recognise that inequality in society affect people's life chances.

In Year 12 I was part of the NSPCC CHIPS programme, which is an anti-bullying campaign. This enables younger children in the school to have someone to talk to other than teachers. It aims to encourage children to speak out against bullying and hopefully give them opportunities to feel confident that their fears are taken seriously. I feel this has benefited my personal development as I have gained confidence in talking to people and feel I am really making a difference to people suffering from bullying. The qualities I have to enable me to carry out this role are that I am sensitive, trustworthy, mature and above all committed to fairness and equality.

I am a prefect at my school and this enables me to have a voice in decisions about the school and fundraising events for both the school and local charities. This role has given me confidence in my peer group and maturity to compromise on difficult situations where a group struggles to agree.

I work part time in a local restaurant which enables me to meet a variety of people. I thoroughly enjoy my job and I have worked at the same place for the past two years. I enjoy a good relationship with my colleagues and members of the local community as well as tourists visiting the area. I have had the challenge of dealing with difficult customers but feel confident in my ability to deal with a tricky situation calmly and respectfully.

I volunteered at a local nursing home which provides residential care for the elderly. I worked on the mental health unit of the home, which at first I found very upsetting and unnerving. I discussed my concerns with the nursing staff and persevered with my placement which I began to enjoy and found very rewarding. The placement gave me the knowledge and understanding of why some elderly people act the way they do and the difficulties they face on a day to day basis. This then gave me the confidence to talk to them without fear of offending.

I also fundraise and promote awareness of International Women's day each year by handing out information leaflets and white ribbons at a local shopping centre. This raises awareness of Domestic Violence and helps ensure people know where to go for help. I am planning to volunteer at a local youth centre in the coming year and assist the youth leaders to plan and implement activities for the local community.

My interests are socialising with my friends, reading, swimming, and horse riding. I am an outgoing individual who has many friends; I am loyal, honest and reliable. I live with my parents and younger sister and enjoy a close relationship with them and my extended family that live in the Valleys. I hope to study at your university and go on to work in social care, I feel I could bring my experience of work, school and volunteering to the course and feel that achieving a degree in this work would be a challenge I could rise to. I would like to go on to work in this field, hopefully making a positive difference to people who may be vulnerable and need a voice to ensure their rights and needs are met.