

NURSING

'The trained nurse has become one of the great blessings of humanity, taking a place beside the physician and the priest' William Osler. I understand that being a children's nurse requires support, compassion and empathy when interacting with both the child and parent. Long working days and nights are common as well as stress, however no two days are ever the same, and in my eyes there is no greater privilege or reward than helping someone as innocent as a child. I don't find the responsibility of looking after a child daunting. Each nurse I have spoken to has inspired me more to pursue this career and enabled me to understand the personal drive and motivation needed. I believe that children need to be treated with dignity and respect and that when involving the parent you should explain in the most sympathetic way. Having thoroughly enjoyed studying Biology I am keen to study a degree that enables me to combine theory with practice. Earlier this year I took part in work experience at a local hospital which gave me an insight into the role and the emotional challenges to be faced. I helped patients with movement, exercises, eating and activities. This raised my awareness of the difficulties I may encounter and made me appreciate the responsibility and dedication required. I've taken part in a nursing master class and attended several university nursing open days gathering an insight into the profession and the demands of the course. By becoming a senior prefect I've obtained organisational skills, motivation and the ability to work in a team by organising charity events. CHIPS has helped me to understand some of the issues that young people face and allowed me to work with younger pupils and help with problems they may have. This was rewarding and challenging and required maturity, trust from the younger student and the initiative to act accordingly to the problem. It has taught me that some children find it difficult to articulate their fears so you need to be aware of non verbal communication such as body language. As a member of YFC I've competed in many competitions such as junior safety and first aid, coming first in Pembrokeshire and making it to the Wales finals. This increased my enthusiasm for helping people and I found learning the first aid both rewarding and fulfilling. Becoming a member of the YFC women's tug of war team and making the county finals allowed me to prove my commitment, dedication, punctuality and team spirit. I have helped with the younger members activities giving me a better understanding of their interests and the skills needed to interact with children effectively.

This year I took part in the make your mark challenge, our team coming third out of all the schools in Wales. We needed to be organised, hardworking, conscientious and capable of adapting to differing audiences. I have taken part in numerous runnings of the race for life, having always had the ambition of helping people. I aspire to improve as many lives as possible by being as positive, enthusiastic and committed as I can to all that life throws at me.

Coming from a tourism based town my part time jobs have greatly expanded my communication, hospitality and patience and have enabled me to interact with a wide variety of people. This year I have helped organise the annual 6th form comedy show to raise money for Children in Need which requires a cheerful, fun personality as well as the ability to understand the sense of humour of the younger years who we perform the show to.

I am hugely looking forward to university life and the opportunities and academic challenges it brings. Having enjoyed extra curricular activities such as horse riding I am keen to participate and actively contribute to university life and clubs. I hope to gain great experience and develop and broaden my knowledge to achieve my ultimate goal of making a difference to people's lives.