

TRAVEL AND TOURISM

Understanding the cultures and behaviour of people from all over the world and observing the reception some countries have towards other nationalities intrigues me. On a recent visit to Kai Tak and Lap Kok in Hong Kong, I was captivated by its diversity and contrasts. In Kowloon flea market everything could be bought: dead dogs lie in the gutter and live chickens are decapitated to order! Turn a corner and you are in a bustling modern capital surrounded by sports cars and up-market boutiques. I loved the contrast and this moment sums up my interest in Travel and Tourism.

I feel that all three of my A level subjects complement my choice of degree through the understanding of people, the communication with foreigners and the understanding of the world and its settlement patterns.

I feel that this course would be suited to me as I enjoy working with a variety of people and nationalities and I have a strong interest in the travel industry. In the summer following my GCSEs, I organised my own work experience at Teeside International Airport where I was situated in every department in the airport over the space of a week. The most fascinating was observing the staff at British Midland. This included customer services, load controlling, boarding and dispatching the aircraft to London Heathrow.

Outside of school, I have developed a keen interest in flying and I have been lucky enough to have one of the lessons at the American Flyers club in Fort Lauderdale! Additional work experience includes being a part-time sales assistant in a local supermarket and waitress in a Thai restaurant. All of these positions either held or hold an amount of responsibility and enabled me to work with and for a wide range of people.

In addition to flying, I am very keen on all sports, in particular hockey. I have represented all of my schools as well as my district, County and the North of England. I was fortunate to captain the U-14 and U-16 district and county teams. A new interest in my life is extreme sports. Having white water rafted in Australia, I decided to take up the challenge of an 11,000ft skydive over Durham and raised just over £600 for Mind. I also completed an ill-fated Bungee jump in aid of the Owen Swift appeal which found me hanging 180ft by my left arm above a pub car park! I find time to relax with my friends by going to the cinema, going out for meals or by listening to a wide variety of music.

Within school I have reached school prefect status, and last July I was appointed vice-captain of my house. This position of responsibility will allow me to share new ideas with the group and to display a degree of leadership skills to ensure the smooth running of the group. These skills were also needed when I completed the bronze stage of the Duke of Edinburgh Award. I look forward to being able to continue these interests and hobbies when I reach university.