

## DENTISTRY

I first became interested in dentistry after researching various professions within healthcare. I only realised it was the career for me after completing work experience both with a dentist, and at my local hospital via the NHS Trust and Med Wales programmes, in which I spent time in various departments.

Dentistry had a strong impact on me, and whilst on work experience I was fascinated by the different procedures and loved the 'hands-on' aspect. I have always been a practical person with an attention to detail and realise how similar dentistry is to design technology, which is my favourite subject, the only difference is that the models are alive. I thoroughly enjoyed observing the daily duties of my local dentist and realised the importance of technology in treatment. Whilst there I got to see a range of procedures, from simple fillings and polishes, to root canal treatments. I also got to use a CAD-CAM process to design and make crowns, which was almost identical to the technology I use in my D.T projects at school. I would find the procedures challenging but rewarding to perform as they require precision and accuracy as well as patience. I feel this is important as I want to provide the best service possible without causing any pain to the patient. I am good at problem solving which I think is essential in dentistry when having to identify the cause of a patient's problem.

The experiences convinced me that dentistry is the profession for me. As it would give me the perfect combination of mechanical application and academic knowledge whilst being able to provide caring and competent oral healthcare. Dentistry will also allow me to maintain not only my educational and interpersonal skills, but also to be able to continue with the practical challenges that I have always enjoyed but on a smaller and more delicate scale.

Initially when choosing my A level subjects I was unsure of what I wanted to do at University, this is why I do not already have Chemistry and Biology. But after realising that dentistry was the course for me I am dropping Further Maths to take Biology. This will help me acquire some of the scientific knowledge require for dentistry. I hope it also demonstrates my dedication to get on this course. I am also currently undergoing voluntary work at a local care home in order appreciate individuals needs.

I am a very keen sportsman and have been Junior Captain for the golf team, as well as playing for my school rugby team in past years. Fitness is one of my hobbies and I use it to try and help good causes, having recently done the dawn walk for Macmillan cancer support, and hopefully will be doing more charity events in coming years. I also have a keen interest in swimming, which I took further into becoming a RNLi qualified lifeguard. This enabled me to get a weekend and holiday job at my local leisure centre. Working there gives me a responsible position where I can communicate with the public. I find it a rewarding part time job that allows me to develop people skills as well as using my swimming to help others. I am a prefect at school helping with peer mentoring and have worked with blind and partially sighted students, as a volunteer via the UCAN drama scheme for visually impaired children.

I greatly look forward to taking a demanding degree course, and I am eager to face the challenges that dentistry will present. I am a friendly, confident person who has the determination to persevere. I believe that I have the academic ability and personal qualities required to become a dentist. I think dentistry is a fantastic course and I would be honoured to be able to study it.