

I started taking interest in human biology and the role that science plays in health from a young age from my aunt. She was a dentist and used to regularly talk me through her day-to-day life in work and all the exciting things she did as a dentist from her time in university to her time in the job. These conversations have stuck with me and on reflection probably added to my natural interest in biology.

In school I always looked forward to being in Biology as it's the subject that interests me the most. Specifically within the topic I found chemical defences against parasites interesting such as the different types of lymphocytes and the process of each different ones. I know a career in the medical field requires hard work, respect, leadership, and the ability to work within a team, in a fast-paced environment. I have continuously showed these skills from when I moved from my home country Georgia to Glasgow at the age of seven. When I arrived I had no knowledge of English and found it very difficult, although with hard work and dedication to learning, I learned English fast. This shows that I am hard working in things that may seem difficult at first.

To research my courses I have done independent research on Oral Health Sciences on Future Learn (online videos). I have further researched Immunology and parasitology and learned the aims and outlines of the courses. I also researched into Biochemistry to learn the skills and the history of biochemistry to make me familiar with the course, which made me realise the importance of Oral Health Sciences but also Immunology and Biochemistry. From the research I was able to take away a lot of new information and get me more confident on the course as well as interesting me more into medicine and healthcare.

I consider myself a very calm and patient person. I have shown this skill in helping my little brother improve his social and communication skills as he was diagnosed with dyslexia and struggled with verbal communication. In October, I attended an Easter Bush Science Outreach Centre masterclass where I developed my manual dexterity skills by being very precise with my placements of cheek cells solution into an electrophoresis whilst also watching for the amount I was placing and making sure I didn't puncture the jelly. I also extracted solutions by a graduated pipette into different equipment's many times making sure I didn't touch the skin cells. As this was challenging, I was able to tackle the difficulties regardless and was able to work with precision on a small scale as well as constant attention to detail throughout the masterclass.

On December 5th I attended School of Health and Life Sciences open day at the Caledonian University. During this, we had a tour of the hospital and were shown the clinical areas to get familiar with the environment and how we would be working and learning. As we were shown around the clinical areas, we were demonstrated some of the lessons and while being shown this I felt very comfortable and confident with the practices being demonstrated and learned about all the precisions and attention to detail that must be undergone. I continuously seek these types of opportunities to find out more about the practices undergone as it excites me into the course.

Outside of school, I like to partake in lots of different activities, such as tennis, swimming and gymnastics. Through tennis I was able to develop teamworking skills by having a strong verbal communication with my team mates on the tennis field I also had strong agility skills. Swimming and gymnastics have helped me develop my coordination skills such as being able to use my whole body in water.

I am a mature individual and fully understand the academic and professional requirements for a career in the medical field. I hope to contribute to and improve public health through my course choices and feel I am equipped to meet the challenges of university level studies.