



Medical future looks bright for five 'all-rounders'

Five Havering Sixth Form College students have the exciting opportunity of a career in medicine after receiving offers from top universities and medical schools.

Abdul Rehman Javed, Precious Ayandokun, Deren Aygin, Mahesh Pillai and Manjinderjit Boparai have all been chosen above thousands of other students in a rigorous selection process.

They must all achieve AAA in their upcoming A2 exams in order to secure their places.

Deren, a former pupil at Sanders Draper School who is studying Biology, Chemistry and Maths, has been offered a place at Queen Mary University of London for Medicine.

He says: "Getting this offer is an amazing step forward in my dream of becoming a doctor. If you are planning on applying to medicine you have to be aware of the severe competition for places and what you need to do to stand out from the rest.

"Voluntary work and work experience are crucial. If you're selected for interview it is your chance to shine so try to relax and be confident.

"I have really enjoyed my time at Havering Sixth Form College and although it's sad to be leaving, I am looking forward to the exciting years ahead as a medic."

Abdul, an ex student at Lister School, is taking Maths, Biology and Chemistry and has been offered Dentistry at the University of Leeds.

He is looking forward to the challenge and says staff and teachers at College have helped him enormously.

"My College experience has been great. I have had a lot of help and feedback from staff – some of them have really put a lot of time and effort into helping me reach my potential.

"I would advise any other students thinking of applying for a medical degree to keep on top of their work and have a list of activities in which they have taken part, anything that separates them from the rest of the applicants and makes them unique."

Former Frances Bardsley School pupil Precious, who has been offered a place at Imperial College School of Medicine, agrees that medical schools are not just looking for super intelligent students. She said: "They are not just after bright students; they want all-rounders, so I would advise other students applying for medicine to get involved in as many extra-curricular activities as possible, as competition for a place is very tough."

Precious, who gained four A grades in her AS exams for Biology, Chemistry, Maths and Psychology, added: "Coming to Havering Sixth Form College has been a fantastic experience for me, both educationally and socially. I have learnt to be a lot more

responsible for my own learning, which has put me in a good position for when I go to university.

“My goal is to become a surgeon, which will take a long time and a lot of dedication but I am determined to achieve it – after all, the hardest part was actually getting an offer!”

Mahesh Pillai, an ex Langdon School student, achieved AAAA in his Biology, Chemistry, Maths and Physics AS Levels. He has been offered a place at University College London to study Medicine after taking a gap year.

Manjinderjit Boparai, also from Langdon School, who achieved AAAB in her Biology, Business Studies, Maths and Chemistry AS Levels, has an offer for Dentistry at Queen Mary University.