



Medical careers on the horizon for three hard-working students

A dream career in medicine is beckoning three Havering Sixth Form College students who have all received offers from Universities to continue studying towards their goal.

Students Philip Cheng, Emily Gogo and Tatiana Tuyindi have been successful in an extremely tough selection process.

Philip, a former Abbs Cross School student, has been offered Medicine at Leicester University if he achieves grades AAB in his Biology, Chemistry and Maths A Levels.

He has already achieved three A grades in his AS exams along with a C in Psychology, and he has completed the Extended Project.

Although he is keeping an open mind about other specialities, he says he aspires to be a leading surgeon and is well prepared for the hard work that lies ahead.

He said: "Applying for a medical course feels like a marathon. At certain points I did feel very anxious and stressed but in the long run you have to be determined, positive and patient.

"Having to fulfil certain criteria to get yourself an interview was an arduous process. You need good GCSE and AS grades, high scores on aptitude tests, and you have to have had some relevant work experience and some volunteer work. You also need to write a personal statement that makes you stand out from the crowd.

"My advice to prospective applicants is to sometimes take a step back and think about what your next objective is. You should also revise from the beginning of the academic year to achieve excellent grades, and keep up-to-date with medical health issues, for example, by reading articles from BBC News, health journals, and the student BMJ etc.

"Most importantly, have a healthy social life by attending extra curricular activities and spending time with family and friends."

He added: "I would like to thank my friends, family, members of staff from Abbs Cross School and Havering Sixth Form College, particularly Nikki Phelps and the careers team for helping and supporting me throughout the process."

Emily Gogo, who attended Stratford School, has had a conditional offer from the University of Southampton for the six-year foundation medical programme run there. She needs to achieve grades CCC in Biology, Chemistry and Maths A Levels.

Emily has already achieved in her AS exams, gaining a grade A in Maths, B in Biology and B in Chemistry, along with a C in Economics.

She said: "The Careers Team at College have been a great help, especially with checking over my personal statement, helping with interview practice and much more. Students can just walk in and ask for assistance."

Former Bower Park School student Tatiana Tuyindi, who is studying on the International Baccalaureate course has had a conditional offer from Peninsular and needs to achieve an IB score of 36.