



STUDENT CHOSEN TO RECEIVE £1,500 BURSARY FOR UNIVERSITY

Former College student Vallessa Solo has been selected to receive a £1,500 Helena Kennedy bursary for 2009 to assist her in her studies when she starts at University this month.

Vallessa came to Havering Sixth Form College in 2007, achieving three AS Levels at the same time as sitting her GCSE English. She then took A Levels in Law, Spanish and French, and will be studying Law and French at Sheffield Hallam University.

The Trustees were moved and inspired by the commitment and dedication Vallessa has shown in continuing her education. They also appreciated the tremendous support the College has given to Vallessa, particularly Liz Sheppard, her Personal Tutor who encouraged her to apply for this well-deserved award.

Vallessa is a former Brittons School student and lives in Hornchurch. This is her story:

"Since I started at Havering Sixth Form College, the environment and all the members of staff have been great. However, I will have to talk about the support staff personally because they have helped me so much.

I remember in my first year of college, I had a problem understanding and writing English. Therefore, it was hard to cope with my coursework and my lessons in general. I was offered a grammar lesson once a week in the Learning Zone. It was very helpful because the staff always go the extra mile. They sat down with me to go through my work and made sure that I was up to date.

The Learning Zone is more than just a place where you can get help and the staff treat you and your problem as if it was their own. You can use any facilities you want and get assistance if you need to.

Another help I got was from my senior tutor Lucien Taylor. Lucien gave me the strength not to give up when the situation got really tough and he also suggested different ways that can help me with lessons and my revision.

I guess all I am trying to say is I am very grateful for all the support because if it wasn't for their help, I would not be where I am today."