



Victoria aims to be Olympic star

Havering Sixth Form College student Victoria Ohuruogu is widely tipped to be a main contender at the 2012 London Olympic Games after showing exceptional promise in athletics - becoming the national U19 400m champion.

Victoria, 17, is studying A Levels in English Language, History and Art & Design (Textiles) at Havering Sixth Form College. She joined the College in September 2009 and is now being mentored on an Elite Athlete Support Programme at the College with five other high-performing sporting youngsters.

As well as being the U19 national champion, Victoria is also the Aviva ESAA English Schools 400m champion and competed in the Youth Olympic Games European 400m Trials in Moscow finishing fourth in a personal best time of 54.17. She then went on to represent Great Britain in the first Youth Olympic Games in Singapore.

She says: "It was great fun in Singapore. I didn't medal there but it was a great experience being in an Olympic Village with 3,000 other athletes from over 200 countries. It gave me a good insight into how it would be competing in other major championships."

Victoria's dream would be to emulate her sister Christine, the current Olympic 400m champion. She says: "Christine has inspired me because she has achieved what most athletes have tried to achieve all their lives and she is still extremely hard working and focused on her job."

Victoria's mentor at College is Rob McGeoghegan who has set up the support programme to help individual high-achieving sporting students juggle their sporting dedication with their A Level studies.