

Case Study

George - Head Boy

KEY FACTS:

Head Boy dates: 2017-2018

Year started at Mary Hare: Sept 2011

A Levels taken: Maths, Further Maths & Physics

Local Authority: Hampshire

Hearing Loss: Profoundly deaf

What was your first week at Mary Hare like?

I can remember coming to school on the first day, admitting the fact that I was terrified of the idea of staying away from home for most of the week for the next 7 years. I was not the most confident boy around and was afraid to approach others and become friends. However after my first night, my friendships had begun with my roommates and have continued to expand ever since. Everyone here was welcoming, the staff made me feel at home and the pupils were like siblings.

Did you find making friends easy?

I used to always try to avoid the possibility of meeting people due to my lack of confidence. Since then I have made many friends across the year and school. This was not difficult to achieve, arriving at this school, being worried about the idea of being lonely. The year become close friends so quickly, the pupils' willingness to get to know you better was nice and at that point I knew I had come to the right school. If I had gone to a mainstream school instead, I can't imagine how different my life would have been.

"At Mary Hare you go beyond your limits and potential."



How have you found 6th Form life?

It is certainly an experience and possibly the best way to give pupils an understanding of life after Mary Hare. You have much more independence, but this means more responsibilities. This even means having to get up by yourself! Having the independence is good but you cannot get carried away in the social life. You have to find the balance between work and social life. Being in the 6th Form does mean more work and you cannot get the best academic records possible without working or researching in your own time. Social life is great - in your free time you can go to Newbury town, play sports or even just socialise in the boarding houses. There are some occasions where you can go to the cinema, go karting, paintballing.

Describe your experience of boarding

Joining in year 7 I shared a bedroom with two boys, who inevitably became my great friends through the school years. Boarding at Mary Hare is the reason why I have such a more enjoyable social life today. As I got older into year 11, I moved to Murray House where you are given your own room as it is GCSE year and requires revision to get the best grades possible. Then after that it is 6th Form where you either get your own bedroom or share with a person which always isn't a disaster. Having your own room does mean you have to handle your responsibilities and try to ignore all distractions at all cost!

Describe your experience to date as Head Boy

As Head Boy, we (myself and Claudia) organise all break, lunch and prep duties. I already have plans and ideas for the future such as party in the park for the summer term, Christmas entertainment, elderly Christmas party, Oscar awards, prom and more events. I am confident in my team to make it the most enjoyable year for the students of Mary Hare. I am looking forward to organising these events.

Can you tell us what you have achieved academically?

At GCSE level, I have achieved an A* in Maths, 4 A's in English Literature, English Language, French, Chemistry, 3 B's in History, Physics, Biology and a C in Geography. I am currently studying 4 AS's which are Maths, Further Maths, Physics and Chemistry.

Is there anything else you would like to say about your time at Mary Hare?

Mary Hare School cannot be compared with any other schools. Most deaf young people have been told that their potential cannot be achieved due to their deafness. At Mary Hare you go beyond your limits and potential and I would have struggled academically and socially if I had gone anywhere else. I am always thankful to this school and what it has given me, which is why I wanted to be Head Boy, to give Mary Hare School something back as a token of gratitude. As Head Boy I hope to make all of the pupils of Mary Hare realise how lucky they are to come here.

After Mary Hare, I am hoping to go to a university to study Mathematics. The skills Mary Hare have given me will prove useful for future careers and give me the best job I can get. I always have and always will recommend this school to any deaf children, especially if they are in a mainstream school and need a significant improvement in their academic and social life.

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Securing the future of deaf children and young people

