What do you particularly enjoy about studying Applied Science?

I particularly enjoy studying all the three sciences: Physics, Chemistry and Biology. This is because they all cover a wide range of topics which I am very keen to learn about such as the human body in biology and atomic structure in chemistry. I really enjoy learning about the human body and how it works because I would like to study a sports related degree, and this will massively help with my knowledge.

How much work is involved? (hours in lessons / outside of lessons)

Within a college week, I have two lessons of BTEC Applied Science, and each lesson is 2 hours long. However, as this course is assessed on practical aspects and coursework most of the work I complete is actually outside of the lesson. This is because we will spend a lesson on a certain practical and then outside the lesson, we have to write it up while then preparing for the follow-up practical in the next lesson. Therefore, I would probably spend around an extra 3-4 hours on my work after each lesson and then an additional 2-3 hours to check that the work I have produced is up to standard.

How are you assessed and how regularly?

Within this subject we are assessed through our practical work in the laboratory and coursework. Normally, we will go through the work for two lessons to allow us to gain knowledge on the subject. The assignment is then released and we have around
2 more lessons to complete this as well as anytime that we spend on it at home, but this can change depending on what work we have to do. This is because some of the assignments require practicals to be completed in the laboratory. We also have to complete assessed practicals within this subject and these are linked to the topics that we have been learning about. We have at least one assessed practical each half term as this allows us to maintain our knowledge of how to use equipment safely and perform a practical effectively.

**What support have you received and is support available if you don’t understand something?**

The support that I have received during my time at college came from my tutor and fellow classmates. The support is available at all times during the college day and it is very easy to ask for it as the tutor is very welcoming. It doesn’t matter whether you ask the tutor in the lesson or afterwards via email as they always reply. This is because they want the best for their students so this means that whenever I need help, I know that I can just simply ask for it.

**Have you received careers support and what are your future plans?**

I received careers support within the first month of college as I was unsure of what I wanted to do after college. The careers support that I received was really good as it enabled me to create a clear pathway about what grades I wanted to achieve and how this would help me in further education such as university. The careers support also helped me decide what degree is best for me and this allowed me to focus my learning on the specific subjects that are also taught at further education but to a higher standard.