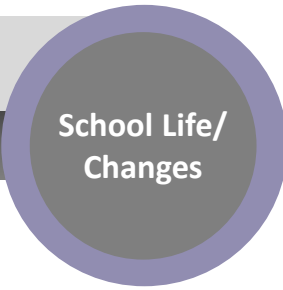


When making decisions about his education and career, Christian is strongly encouraged and influenced by his mother, who has high aspirations for him.

Christian had struggled with motivating himself at school, but now that he has a clear goal, he is finding it easier to persevere.

Christian, Year 13

Urban school



“ **Aimhigher had a significant impact on me because it helped me change my habits and ways in how I was going about life in general, and helped me focus more on what’s important. I am now looking into completing a degree apprenticeship in engineering.** ”

- Christian

Christian has had 14 engagements in total with Aimhigher, including: Mentoring; Summer School; Masterclasses; Information, Advice and Guidance; and Campus Visits.\*

Christian is a quiet, studious and polite student. During his first year of A level study, he found it difficult to balance his workload and keep up with his coursework. He often feels under pressure to succeed, and particularly feels the strain around exam periods, however, **Aimhigher is helping him deal with the demands of 6<sup>th</sup> Form.**

He has always been interested in cars and mechanics. Christian thought that he might want to pursue an apprenticeship in engineering, although maths was a problem area for him. He worked hard and resat his GCSE maths to come out with a better grade. **Aimhigher has given Christian better study skills to improve his exam and revision techniques in the future.**

“ *When I first went into the school he was a shy individual. He’s definitely improved his awareness in what decisions he can make at the end of Year 13.* ”

- Aimhigher Progression Ambassador

A **Time Management session** taught Christian new methods of timetabling, which enabled him to **keep track of his work** and **reduce the pressure** he was feeling during his A level study.

The **Apprenticeship Residential at Aston University** reaffirmed for Christian that an Apprenticeship was not the best option for him. After this residential, Christian attended the **NEC Skills Show**, where he learnt about the degree apprenticeship route, which he feels would be a **much better fit**.

Christian also enjoyed the **Birmingham City University Residential** and the **Make a Move session**.

“ *The Skills Show was probably the most useful event I attended because I gained lots of knowledge on how businesses offer apprenticeships along with degree apprenticeships.* ”

- Christian

Christian has changed his priorities now that he has a deepened knowledge of the various apprenticeship options. He has talked about his future with his Aimhigher Progression Ambassador, and his new goal after Sixth Form is to plan a **career path in engineering.**

He is focused and studying hard to get the required A level grades to apply to universities and he wants to pursue a **degree apprenticeship in engineering.**

“ *I wasn’t very sure whether or not I wanted to go to university. My Aimhigher Progression Ambassador helped me decide and pick the right path on how to achieve that goal.* ”

- Christian

\*Full details on number of activities engaged in and activity objectives are detailed in the Appendices. Please note, learners may not have mentioned each NCOP activity engaged in during their interviews.