



Julia comes from a single parent household. Her background has made her very ambitious with clear goals for the future. Julia's biggest achievements are being offered a place at Cambridge University and becoming a member of the Royal Geographic Society. Her family don't understand the ins and outs of university, but they are very proud.

“ **Aimhigher and college support has been fundamental in my offer from Cambridge University, mainly in terms of helping to turn my dream into a reality by providing funding, access to knowledge and support.** ”

- Julia

Julia has had 10 engagements in total with Aimhigher, including Masterclasses, Information Advice and Guidance and a Campus Visit.*

Julia, FE Year 2

Rural school

School Life/
Changes



Aimhigher
Activity/Impact



Future Goals/
Prospects

Julia achieved mainly **C grades** in her **GCSEs** and did not value the importance of education. At the beginning of Sixth Form, Julia was on course to achieve a **grade E**, which she was really disappointed in. It was a reality check and **switched her attitude.**

Julia has found the college environment incredibly supportive and has tutors who have helped to build her confidence. Her next assessment was **graded at an A*** and she's never gained below that since. Julia is now **confident in her abilities to achieve the grades for Cambridge** as she has invested lots of hard work.

“ *My GCSE grades could have really held me back - no one would have imagined the grades I was capable of - but I was determined enough to prove that I could achieve higher grades.* ”

- Julia

The **'Fund my University Visit'** (NCOP) had the biggest impact on Julia, supporting a visit to Liverpool University and Cambridge for her interview. Julia lives in a rural area (Hereford) where train travel is expensive and a major barrier. **Without the fund**, she doesn't know how she could have afforded the travel and would have felt **limited to look at universities close by, missing the opportunity to attend her interview at Cambridge.**

An NCOP Student Finance workshop gave Julia confidence and knowledge to navigate and access as much support as possible. **One-to-one NCOP careers support** helped Julia to **choose which course to apply for at university.** Julia attended masterclasses, trips and debates funded by Aimhigher. These **helped to demonstrate her curiosity during the interview for Cambridge.**

“ *Aimhigher opportunities are wide ranging and potentially life changing. The extra support offered to Julia has been a tremendous help and have certainly made a difference to her life.* ”

- Assistant Principal

Julia is excited to be the **first person in her family to explore university** and has been offered a place at Cambridge University. One-to-one NCOP careers support helped Julia to choose which course to apply for and really focussed her mind. Julia loves Archaeology, but was concerned about career prospects. This one-to-one guidance has supported her to opt to study for Archaeology, with an affiliate year in Law and Politics.

Julia has a very enquiring mind and would love achieve a **doctorate and have a career in academia and publish books.**

“ *In Hereford students have less exposure to university, it is difficult for them to imagine what a university experience is and to imagine leaving Hereford - so they don't open themselves up to the prospect of HE.* ”

- Julia

*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.