



12 November 2021

Dear Supporters,

After another year of immense challenges for everyone, we hope you and your loved ones are well.

We have experienced another year of growth, so thank you for your ongoing support, and as a result have been able to support even more exceptional young people - over 250 Scholarships were awarded this past summer. Having just recently spent the day reading through all the schools' and colleges' student testimonies, I've swung from tears of sadness at the challenges many have had to face, to tears of joy at reading about how they have shown such resilience to face everything the past 18 months have thrown at them, and still face the next chapter of their lives with optimism and excitement. In the words of some of their teachers:

*"Throughout her time at college, she has been incredibly resilient and has always maintained the high standards that she sets for herself. In addition to this, she demonstrates a genuine kindness and care towards her fellow students. She has a maturity and desire to succeed that will ensure she has a very bright future ahead."*

*"Sadly, she lost her mother in 2019 but despite this emotionally challenging time she has continued to be level-headed, supportive of her younger sister and father and always done her best. She just quietly gets on with things and never asks for anything. She thoroughly deserves this award and I know she will make excellent use of this at university."*

*"His family circumstances have been difficult in terms of having to deal with major illnesses and bereavements, however, his studies have been both his support and priority. It has been a joy to witness this young man develop and grow into such a gentleman and scholar."*

*"During Sixth Form, she had to look after a baby brother, a teenage brother and her mum, hold down a part-time job to contribute to the family's finances and cope with the demands of A-level study. She is now going to University and I can't think of a more deserving recipient of this very generous award. Thank you so much."*

*"She has been through an awful lot throughout her life so far and yet constantly amazes us with her resilience, hard work and positive attitude. For someone who has had to deal with far too much at such a young age, she is a model student who genuinely cares for all around her whilst wanting to see positive change in a productive manner. She should be incredibly proud of the young woman she has become."*

*“She is an outstanding student who is an avid reader. She assisted in the library throughout her time at the academy and was a Reading Buddy for younger students. We would like to help her source her books for her course in the same way that she has helped countless students improve their literacy and enjoy reading.”*

*“She is quite simply an incredible young lady. Academically talented, she has blossomed in 6th Form. However, she is much more than an academic. This year, she has served as Deputy Head Girl for the school, focusing on the mental health and wellbeing of students throughout this highly unusual period. On top of all this, she is just a lovely human being. She always has time for a chat, is engaging, funny and highly articulate, although beneath this exterior lies a fierce and challenging intellect.”*

*“He has shown amazing grit, determination and resilience in overcoming a huge amount of early trauma to excel in his studies. He has shone at school, working hard for himself whilst helping others. He has overachieved in everything, and he is a true example that it's not where you come from that matters, it's where you're going!”*

*“It is usual practice for our students to take three Level 3 courses, but she is studying four and a half. She has managed her workload in an exemplary fashion, maintaining high standards of work and excellent grades. She has done this alongside her remarkable outreach work and volunteering roles in the community. We are incredibly proud of her - she is a rare gem, and a credit to herself.”*

With the generous support of all of our donors and supporters we've been able to gradually expand our Scholarships geographically, and now support Scholarships in every city and county in England (except Rutland, which we're working on). These students are now studying everything from Midwifery to (Video) Game Design, at universities across the UK, as the word cloud overleaf shows.

