**Applied for:** Environmental Science

**Offers received:**

University of Reading – ABB

Keele University – BBB

Cardiff University – BBB

University of East Anglia – BBB

Aberystwyth University - BBC

"What we are doing to the forests of the world is but a mirror reflection of what we are doing
to ourselves and to one another." This quote from Mahatma Ghandi summarises how I feel about the human impact on the planet and the consequences of this. I have developed a passion for understanding the relationship between human activity and the natural world. There have been many reports on the news discussing the impacts of anthropogenic climate change. Seeing the damaging impacts of natural disasters has inspired me to try to find a solution to provide poorer countries with the technology to prevent high death counts because of tsunamis, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and floods. Studying an Environmental Science degree will allow me to take the next step towards understanding how I can contribute to solving the problems affecting our planet.

My EPQ investigated to what extent humans have accelerated climate change because I felt
people have a lot of contradictory knowledge and information on its impact on our world. This developed my critical analysis of data sources alongside written communication and effective presentation skills. My independent investigation in Geography has aided my data collection and fieldwork skills. Maths requires perseverance and a methodical approach to cope with the problem solving aspects and Chemistry requires the precise and accurate recording of data and written reports on lab work; each of which I believe will help me when studying for this degree.

During summer 2017, I visited The Philippines, Japan and Hong Kong. This made me realise how a natural disaster can more severely impact less economically developed countries. In The Philippines, I visited a local town bursting with life and happiness; the town had a sparse
number of electrical supplies and each person worked hard for what they had. The tourist town of Boracay had the same level of happiness and joy and better infrastructure, but the impacts of a natural disaster would be greater because the people who work in Boracay rely on tourism for income to feed their families. In contrast, Tokyo, Japan has skyscrapers and highly developed infrastructure. Japan has frequent earthquakes that could cause vast amounts of damage, but they have developed systems that can give warning to allow people to prepare for the natural disaster. I am interested in looking at how more effective warning systems could be introduced to reduce death rates in low economically developed areas. The lessons that have been learnt in developed countries can be applied to help the less developed locations.

As part of an Irish Dancing team since the age of six, I have been fortunate to travel the
world to compete. Not only was I able to have fantastic experiences and see parts of the world that I could only have dreamt of, but I got to meet people of all ages and nationalities. When looking into the job role of an Environmental Consultant, I noticed that there could
opportunities to meet people from many different countries. My experience of travel will allow
me to feel confident when travelling and meeting new people. Alongside my studies, I have a
part-time job with the Co-op. One of the reasons I chose to work for them is because of their
dedication to reducing their pollution; they had an aim to halve their emissions by 50%,
compared to 2006 by 2020 but passed this target in 2017 with a 54% reduction. Longer term, I would like to become an Environmental Consultant to help companies to take the same responsible approach to the environment that the Co-op does. I look forward to developing the skills needed whilst studying for my Environmental Science degree and then applying my knowledge to help companies to improve their environmental impact.