



Saffron's Story

Saffron, aged 19.

Participated in London experience aged 11 whilst in year 6 at Thanet Primary School.

In Saffron's own words...

A little bit about me:

I didn't have a great childhood, I would describe it as painful and stressful. My parents were unemployed and had no aspirations for me. They used to tell me that I would never achieve anything and that I would never get anywhere. It was a turbulent upbringing we moved around a lot. I went to nine primary schools and five secondary schools.

When I went to London with Hull Children's University:

It was the first time I had left Hull and the first time I had ever been on a train. It was the same for most of the kids in my class. I was really excited and remember seeing "platform nine and three quarters at Kings Cross" as well as walking over Westminster Bridge, going on the London Eye and visiting the Houses of Parliament. We saw some politicians in Port Cullis House which was exciting. I remember seeing the House of Commons, the House of Lords and doing a workshop where we made a law. It was a brilliant experience. Before going to London I thought I'd never be able to get anywhere in life and that I would be stuck in Hull forever. It gave me the opportunity to want something more in life. I had a little bit of an interest in politics before I came on the trip but having the experience in London made me want to live in London and pursue a career in politics. The trip really gave me the ambition to do something with my life. Importantly, it gave me the self-belief and confidence to achieve something in my life.

After the experience:

Going to London with Hull Children's University made me want to go to University, something I had never thought about before. I was 11 years old and looking at University courses. I'm now a sixth form student with a conditional offer to attend the University of Hull to complete a degree in Politics. I am the first person in my family to do A levels. I am going to volunteer with Hull Children's University as mentor so I can help other children growing up in circumstances that are similar to mine. I want them to know that they can do something amazing with their lives like me.