



ZOE AND ANTHONY LIVE
IN SOLIHULL WITH THEIR
DAUGHTER, MIA-ROSE,
WHO IS 15.

Mia-Rose loves being able to study Hair and Beauty in the happy atmosphere of Lode Heath School

Learning skills

Mia-Rose has enjoyed Year 10 at Lode Heath School where she has been fulfilling her dream of training to be a hairdresser. Mia-Rose says: "I am delighted to have been able to do Hair and Beauty this year. I have been able to do six hours a fortnight – four hours of theory and two hours of practical work. I enjoy doing the practical side and I have found that I learn better when I am doing things myself."

Useful lessons

Learning about the science of skin and hair has also been interesting for Mia-Rose. "We have learnt about the effects of ingredients on hair and skin as well as about styling hair and applying make-up to the skin. I got 90 per cent in the exam at the end of Year 10 and was awarded a distinction star."

Creating looks

Students don't just get to practice on dummy heads because members of staff sometimes act as models for them. "It is nice that the staff are willing to get involved," Mia Rose says. "I enjoy doing the practical work, such as being given looks to create for hair, and for beauty, and try to carry them out."

Approachable staff

Mia-Rose started in Year 7 at Lode Heath at the age of 11. It was the closest school to where she lived and her Mum, Zoe, had attended Lode Heath herself. She went to a summer school where she met some of the teachers and settled in well after she started. Mia-Rose says: "I remember that it seemed really big and we were given maps to help us find our way around, but the teachers were all friendly."

Range of subjects

She says she started with some of her friends from primary school but she has met lots of new people and

has a totally different group of friends now. "I enjoyed learning new subjects and particularly liked Catering and Dance. I enjoy doing English and analysing books and poems, and I always find the teachers very helpful."

Good qualification

Mia-Rose is now studying for GCSEs in English, Maths, Geography, Science, Business, Hair and Beauty, and Statistics. "I am very excited about next year and carrying on with Hair and Beauty at Lode Heath. When I take the exam at the end of next year it will be for a Level 2 qualification in Hair and Beauty. I will then apply to go to a college to take Level 3. If I wasn't doing Hair and Beauty at Lode Heath now, I would have to do Levels 1 and 2 at college before I could move on to Level 3, so it is great to be able to study for Level 1 and 2 at school," she says.

Great experience

"Lode Heath organised my work experience in a hair salon during Year 10 and I absolutely loved it. I would recommend Lode Heath to other students because of all the opportunities you are offered. I enjoyed playing netball after school for two years and taking part in competitions. I think it is great there are lots of different subject options available for you to try and the teachers are always happy to help you."

Supportive school

Her Mum, Zoe, says: "Mia-Rose has always wanted to be a hairdresser and so we are pleased she has been able to do Hair and Beauty at Lode Heath, as not many schools offer this. Being able to do her work experience in a hairdressing salon was perfect for her. We were pleased Lode Heath helped her get a place and supported her while she was there by checking on her to make sure she was okay. At the end of it, the salon offered her a Saturday job, which was great."