

# MY EXPERIENCE OF THE SUMMER SCHOOL IN FOOD SCIENCES 2017

*by Eleanor Parker*

## **What impact did the summer school have on your emotions?**

I had mixed feelings before arriving on the course. In the weeks before the summer school, I was excited as Food Sciences is something I have been interested in since my first year at secondary school. I was also enthusiastic to mix with a variety of new people. When I arrived, I felt a little unsettled as I did not know anyone and felt rather overwhelmed by the new environment which was on a much bigger scale than my school. However, my fears were quickly dispelled due to the fun activities I got to take part in and the friendly new people I met!

## **Has the summer school made you more interested in Food Sciences?**

Before the summer school, I wasn't sure what to expect. I thought there would be more lectures and theory than there was. I also didn't expect the staff and student ambassadors to be as helpful and friendly as they were. I was motivated to attend the course as I thought it would give me a good feel what a course in this subject area would be like. I also thought it would help me make the final decision on whether it is the right subject area for me. Overall, I have to say, this whole experience proved to me that Food Science is definitely the subject area I want to focus on after Sixth Form. I really enjoyed all the workshops and there was not a single one I found boring.

## **What was the best part?**

The best part was the activity where we came up with our own food product and designed the packaging for it. The reason I liked this activity is because it allowed me to combine my creative skills with my knowledge of food products and flavour combinations. It also allowed me to work as part of a team and share my ideas with other people.

## **What was the most challenging thing you had to do?**

The most challenging thing was deciding to come on the summer school. I felt rather anxious at the thought of staying in the accommodation and living in a strange, new environment with people who I didn't know. I'm glad I did it as it has given me confidence to try more challenging things in the future.

## **Would you recommend coming to one of our summer schools?**

Yes, I would highly recommend this experience to students. The summer school brings you a bag of amazing gifts. Not only do you get a feel for what it is like to study a university course, you also get the opportunity to make loads of new friends and there are fun activities you can take part in too! e.g. sports, quiz night etc..

It also proved to me that I can do things I would have never previously considered trying. I think it is a great introduction to student life, providing students with a great taste of their life to come.