

My name is Tom Bradley and I am currently in Year 12 at Gowerton School, where I am studying A-level Biology, Chemistry, and the Welsh Baccalaureate. I chose these subjects because they provide a strong foundation for my ambition to pursue a career in medicine. From an early age, I have been fascinated by the human body and how its systems interact, adapt, and function to maintain health. This curiosity has grown stronger through my academic studies, particularly in biology and chemistry, where I have been able to explore complex processes such as cellular function, genetics, and biochemical reactions in greater depth.

My interest in medicine was further reinforced through my work experience at a local doctor's surgery. During this time, I gained valuable insight into the day-to-day responsibilities of healthcare professionals and the diverse nature of the medical field. I observed how doctors, nurses, and administrative staff work collaboratively to deliver patient care, highlighting the importance of teamwork, communication, and empathy. This experience confirmed my desire to enter a profession where I can make a meaningful difference in people's lives while continually learning and developing my skills.

In addition, I have participated in the Seren Project, which has provided me with enriching opportunities to explore medicine beyond the school curriculum. Through this programme, I developed a deeper understanding of the multidisciplinary nature of patient care and how knowledge from different scientific fields is integrated to diagnose and treat illnesses. It also helped me appreciate the importance of critical thinking and problem-solving in clinical settings.

My essay is on antibiotic resistance in bacteria, a topic that initially captured my interest during GCSE Biology when studying natural selection and evolution. Through further research, I came to understand that antibiotic resistance is not only a biological phenomenon but also a complex global issue influenced by social, economic, and behavioural factors. This experience strengthened my ability to analyse scientific information critically and deepened my awareness of the wider implications of medical challenges.

Outside of my academic studies, I am actively involved in extracurricular activities that have helped me develop important personal qualities. I play rugby for Uplands Youth, where I have learned the value of teamwork, resilience, and discipline. Being part of a team has taught me how to communicate effectively and support others under pressure, skills that are essential in a medical environment. I am also a member of the Mumbles Lifeguard Club, where I have gained practical experience in first aid, rescue techniques, and maintaining physical fitness. This role has strengthened my sense of responsibility and my ability to remain calm in potentially stressful situations.

In my spare time, I enjoy playing the guitar, which provides a creative outlet and helps me relax and maintain balance alongside my studies and commitments. Overall, I am highly motivated to pursue a career in medicine, combining my academic interests, practical experiences, and personal qualities to contribute positively to the healthcare profession.

