



Ellesmere College: Testimonial

Pratham Manchanda – Yr 13 – Academic & Sport Scholarship



The opportunity to join Ellesmere College was offered to me in 2017, after applying for and gaining both an academic and sport scholarship. Throughout my 3 years at Ellesmere College, I have been constantly supported by the teachers and the staff on both the academic and sporting fields of my areas of expertise. I did not join until Yr 11, being late to the GCSE coursework, but from day one the teachers helped me to structure my time and catch up the missed work by conducting extra lessons called “clinics” which was usually during lunch breaks and after school and by taking further time out of their busy schedules. Hence it is because of this I was able to achieve good grades in my GCSE’s in a matter of just one year.

As a person who has always been into debating, specifically MUNs (Model United Nations), the school helped me by covering the cost of the annual school trip to Holland, Leiden MUN for 2 years and my supportive boarding house (St Luke’s). This participation in MUNs really helped me improve my academic CV and definitely helped to improve my public speaking, further enhanced by the ESB (English Speaking Board) qualification I was able to gain in Year 12.

This year, I was delighted to receive an offer to represent my school as a Chair in the UN (United Nations) office after a long and successful record of MUN conferences including my participation in the 2019 United Ambassadors Model United Nations Conference (UAMUNC). Ellesmere was more than happy for me to attend the conference and they helped me with my travel and accommodation, while the teachers made sure my academic prowess was up to date. Also, throughout these years, I have been offered multiple offers to take opportunities to represent the school such as the Open Day reception team, which really grew my public confidence and taught me the importance, skill and decency to talk to other people and perhaps I can say it helped me become a true gentlemen.

As a Cricket Scholar, my coaches, Mr Jones and Mr Owen have always helped me to get better during the academy programme and even gave me extra time after lessons to improve my batting skills. With the College’s astounding facilities, set in 150 acres, I was really able to improve my cricket skills and was proud to represent Ellesmere College in the cricket field.

For me, the wide variety of subjects offered by the College for Sixth Form made it comparatively easy for me to choose my subjects for A Levels. I was given some great support and advice by my teachers and my tutor, and this consistent pastoral support really helped me to make the right choices with those people supporting me all the way through.

Having an interest in Law - and as I am going to pursue it as my future career - the Economics and Politics departments had an excellent approach to learning via practical teaching methods and also supplying a series of challenging reading materials to formulate opinion and debate that can be used for future studies.

My Economics teacher used to always take interest in my research in Trade and Corporate Law and was happy to talk about it in extra lessons. Also, my Politics teachers helped me make the right choice for universities by giving me the best advice possible and since politics is related to law in a lot of aspects, I always used to get more substantial material to research upon.



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Finally, my tutor Mrs Westwood always made sure that I balanced my sports, academics and co-curricular activities. She provided me with great help to improve my application into universities and also taught us great values during the PSHE lessons in tutor time. All the teachers including her, have been readily available to support everyone with our education.

Hence, Ellesmere College was the best choice I could have made for high school and Sixth Form, a school where there is "a lot more" to the Ellesmere education experience, and one I have been blessed to have experienced.

To anyone thinking of applying, then please do. You will not know what opportunities may exist for you, but if you are successful, they will be the best few years of your educational life and the door and experiences available will shape the nature and direction of your choices long term. I would not change a thing about my 3 years, that is to say I wish I could have stayed for longer!

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