My passion for computers comes from a year 11 work experience placement at Thomson Reuters. Whilst performing simple data management tasks as part of a team, I was introduced to several different members of staff, each giving me an insight into their roles in the company. The large number of different career paths available, as well as the strong community atmosphere of the development teams, inspired my interest in computing as a career path.

During my summer break this year, I successfully completed a web development course on the website udemy.com. This course covered several key programming languages, including HTML, CSS, JavaScript, SQL and PHP. Using the knowledge I gained I have set up an account on freelancer.com. I use this to test my programming skills in real world situations by taking small jobs to fix various website issues, as well as creating scripts and web-based applications. In doing this I have become much more comfortable with programming and problem solving, improved my technical abilities and demonstrated my dedication and interest in Computer Science as a subject and my ability to learn and research outside of the classroom.

In the summer of 2013 I took part in the World Challenge, a charity based event that operates in many different countries. As part of a team of sixteen, I travelled to Venezuela for a month in order to help repair a school in a remote village within the jungle. This unique experience allowed me to hone several skills such as team working, leadership and time management whilst under stressful, unfamiliar circumstances and living away from home.

I have also demonstrated vital skills during several part time jobs. Firstly, working at WH Smiths for three months over the Christmas period in 2012. Not only did I work as part of a team, but also demonstrated trustworthiness and customer service skills. More recently I have taken a part time role at Croydon Metropolitan College teaching a Saturday class of students preparing for their 11+ entrance exams. This has giving me valuable experience in leadership and communication. These skills will transfer well in to university life, enriching my role in clubs and societies, as well as helping in team-based assignments.

Recently I have been elected as the A Level Course representative within my college. This requires me to participate in regular sessions with the school principal and other course representatives at a weekly Student Partnership Council Meeting, as well as helping to organize A-Level and college-wide events. I believe that my participation shows that I am eager and willing to get involved in the wider life of university, and believe that I can bring new ideas to the student body.

The AS / A Level subjects I am studying at college give me a solid foundation from which to build upon in a Computing degree at university. My Computing, Mathematics and Physics give me a strong grounding in science and technology, further enhanced by my AS Level in Electronics. Attending many university open days and also taking part in a Physics taster session at Royal Holloway this year has given me a great insight into the teaching process at university, allowing me to be better equipped for the change in environment next year.

In conclusion, I have a strong set of AS level results and a wide range of relevant skills and attributes. I am confident that I will quickly and efficiently settle into life on campus, play an active role in the wider student body and be successful in achieving a strong degree in the subject I am most passionate about, Computer Science.