Dear Music Therapy Charity,

Thank you very much for the grant you awarded me in my final year at UWE to enable me to continue my studies to become a music therapist. I found balancing study, working part time and being a Mum very demanding and this grant gave my family and me some financial security at a very difficult time.

Whilst the course was demanding it was also extremely fulfilling. I found the UWE environment and lecturers to be stimulating, challenging and supportive which suited me well. My final placement was at a mainstream school working in Early Years, a field that I have a special interest in. I worked intensively with 11 young children aged 3-5 who required extra support, individually, in groups and with their parents to support them as they started their first steps in education. At a different school I also set up a KS2 classroom well-being project as the basis of my research dissertation looking at ways teachers can use music to support children’s mental health and general well being within a classroom environment. This is a project that I am continuing to work with teachers in different schools to address child mental health concerns.

The same week that I graduated from UWE I also started work as a music therapist with ‘Music Therapy Works’ working with children of all ages with varying disabilities and needs within a special education setting. I have enjoyed my work so far and am pleased to be able to financially support my family in this way.

Yours sincerely,

Beth Howells