

I am writing to thank the Music Therapy Charity for the bursary given to me to support me in my studies. I have just completed the first year of my Master's in Music Therapy with Nordoff Robbins. What a year it has been! The course has challenged me and has made me feel fulfilled as a result of what I have learnt throughout the year.

The highlight for me so far have been my placements which took place in a school for children with autism and at a care home for people living with dementia. These have given me contrasting experiences and therefore taught me about working with people with varying needs. My tutors have been supportive throughout the year, helping build my confidence and manage the challenges confronting me. Supervision by them week by week has been inspiring as they have taught me how to listen intently within sessions and after sessions, and to reflect on my work objectively, as well as showing me many different ways of working which I may have never thought of.

Budgeting for the course has been very difficult, and through taking away some financial pressures the bursary has allowed me to spend more time studying. Extra help towards funding personal therapy has meant that I can learn more about myself and develop as a person and therapist. I have also been able to buy key texts, allowing me to use them on a regular basis rather than having to wait to borrow copies from the library.

I am looking forward to the summer break to review what I have learnt and am looking forward to what is to come next year.