

*Each year students who have received scholarships write to the people who have supported them by making a donation. I've included Sarah's letter because it shows the powerful difference you can make to the life of someone who - thanks to you - has the chance to study at Loughborough University*

Dear Donor,

I just wanted to personally thank you for your kind support of Loughborough University, and in particular your support of my scholarship.

I never really thought I would be able to go to university. My family is small and we have struggled financially since I can remember. I have always wanted to be the one to go to university, so I started working in my teens and tried to save money to afford to, but never managed to earn enough. I worked hard at school, managing to achieve four A grades at A-Level in English, Biology, Sociology and Psychology. My Biology teacher inspired me to want to study Biology at university, and when I got the grades I wanted – I was determined that this was the route I was going to take.

The feeling of determination was coupled with the daunting prospect of funding such an opportunity. My principle concerns were for the potential financial burden my studies could place upon my family. I soon began researching scholarships and found out that Loughborough offered them to students with similar backgrounds to me, if they met the criteria.

When I got accepted on the course at Loughborough - I was ecstatic! I couldn't believe I had been offered such an amazing opportunity at a world-class institution. Also to add to my delight, I had also been awarded with a scholarship. This really put my mind at ease as I know knew my family would not be affected financially by my desire to go to university.

Aside from the financial benefits, the scholarship also helped psychologically. The many stresses on an individual due to financial concerns have been all but relieved, enabling me to fully explore my academic potential. Along with this, being awarded the scholarship has instilled confidence in me, and inspired me to work hard in order to achieve my ambitions.

**I cannot thank you enough for contributing to my scholarship. Without your invaluable support, I wouldn't have been able to come to Loughborough University.** It is my hope that one day I will be able to repay the kindness that has been shown to me by allowing another student the opportunity that I am so greatly enjoying.

Thank you once again,

Sarah  
BSc Human Biology Student