6th August 2020

Dear The Music Therapy Charity,

I am writing to you to say thank you for the investment you have made in me this year. I started studying music therapy at Roehampton University September 2019. The bursary has enabled me to focus on the course and has removed my worries about my finance.

Although this year has been different to expected I have still had a very valuable first year studying music therapy. During the first term much of our learning was theory based. I have had teaching on theory and human development as well as clinical improvisation. I had opportunities to visit several music therapists at their work places. This enhanced my knowledge on different music therapy settings and opened my eyes to a vast range of how music therapy is applied in different places. Also during the first term, I took part in an infant observation. It was an experience where I gained increased observation skills as well as gaining a closer understanding of the mother/ infant relationship.

At the start of my 2nd term I begun my placement. I was able to begin to apply the theory, musical skills and observational skills to my work. The placement was cut short due to Covid-19 however I then was able to learn a great deal from watching back clips from my sessions and noticing the detail of what had happened. Lectures have been fully online for the rest of year, which took some adjusting to start with but was extremely beneficial. It was brilliant that we could carry on with the course even after an interruption.

I am extremely grateful for the bursary that you have given me and I can’t wait to be practising music therapy again during my second year of studying.

Yours sincerely,

Sophie Johnson

1st year music therapy student