

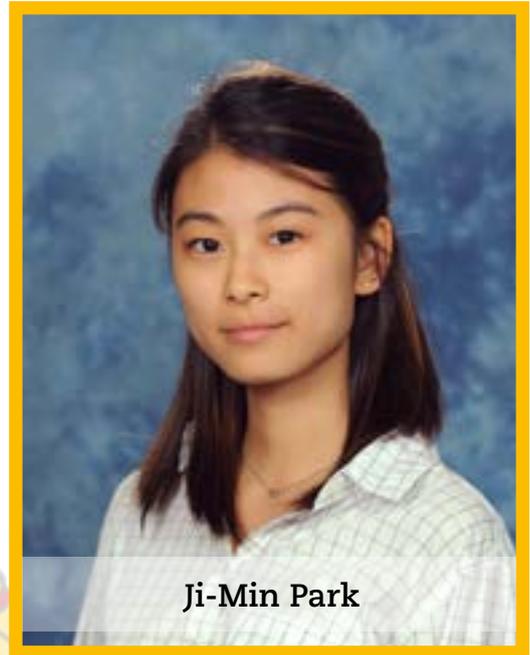
Ji-MIN PARK

BST Alumna 2018

After taking Physical Education, Art and Mathematics for her A-Levels, Ji-min Park won a place on the highly-regarded Global Information & Governance Academic (GIGA) Programme at Keio University, which allows her to put her passions together with her academic interests.

Ji-Min was initially unsure of what career she wanted to pursue in the future, knowing simply that, for as long as she could remember, her devotion had always been to sport. However, this awareness of her joy in life has smoothly guided her to a variety of life-changing experiences and opportunities.

Currently, Ji-Min is a member of the Keio University Women's Volleyball team, which has had its fair share of ups and downs in the past. Upon arrival she was quick to notice that she was the only non-Japanese speaker joining the team. This led Ji-Min to find not only the physical training immensely intense, but also the social side and interaction. But as all things go, stepping out of your comfort zone and embracing opportunities plays a massive role in acquiring new interests and growing.



Ji-Min Park



Back to camera, KEIO T-shirt

Consequently, life-long friendships have been sparked, creating many unforgettable memories for Ji-Min. Competing with her Japanese team mates has enabled her to truly grasp the meaning of teamwork, discipline and determination. Besides her classes, Ji-Min dedicates her university life to the team. There are many leagues and matches during the year, necessitating five training sessions per week lasting 3 to 4 hours! During the school breaks, Ji-Min has participated in training camps outside Tokyo, which only goes to emphasise her continued love for the sport of volleyball.

Another one of Ji-Min's many achievements was attaining a long-term internship at Fanatics Japan, an American-licensed leading merchandising sports company. Here she has been able to learn and experience different perspectives that the sports industry brings, specifically in e-commerce. Ji-Min is looking forward to learning more in the field before her contract ends. Keio is famous for its brilliant alumni network, and this has helped Ji-Min in preparing for job applications.



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Moving forward, Ji-Min is aiming for a career where she will be able to use the great interdisciplinary skills she has gained at Keio, and use them to solve 'real world' business problems. Her long-term goal is to land a position in the sports industry. She is also considering the possibility of returning to university for an MBA, perhaps in Global Sports Marketing.

To our students, Ji-Min says, 'You should try new things and embrace new opportunities; life is a continuous cycle of trial and error, but through this cycle you learn about yourself. BST offered me so many chances to do this, and learnt so much about myself through sports, expeditions, leadership and art.'

'Every day is about learning new things, trying is never a mistake! There is no right or wrong answer, even if you choose a subject and you end up not enjoying it or do poorly; at least that will give you a chance to know your strengths, and that's one box ticked off,



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so you're a step closer to knowing what you want. If you end up with poor results, at least you now know your weakness, and you can do something about that, and it's up to you: you're empowered by the knowledge!'

Ji-Min, we wish you the best of luck in your undoubtedly stellar future career!

Article written by BST Year 9 student, Aiko Goff (February 2022)