

JULIAN LIN

BST Alumnus 2018

Julian Lin arrived in Tokyo planning to complete his final two years of school but not knowing quite what to expect. He certainly didn't expect much by way of teachers and friends but, by the end of those two years, he became completely attached to the BST community. He grew considerably as a person, and thanks his fellow peers and teachers for helping him do so.

Coming from an American school in Hong Kong, the British system was anything but familiar to Julian. He took A-levels in History, Geography and Business, attaining A*, A and B respectively.

Julian thought that the teachers at BST were very supportive and helpful: "The most help I got was actually from the teachers, and I feel like teachers are the most unutilised resource by students", Julian's top tip is to 'talk to your teachers, ask for help, they want you to succeed and will support you - but don't be shy; start the conversation!'

After he graduated from BST in 2018, he enrolled at King's College, London. He loved the access to the rest of Europe and the ease to travel 'on a whim', his favourite city being Prague. Such travel sparked an interest in joining the Canadian military, as he will get to meet people from all corners of the world.

He chose Ancient History for further study, mostly because he enjoyed the subject. Most young adults choose to study a subject that they can build their future career on, but he says that "for 17 to 18-year-old kids, it can be a tall order to find that at such a young age." He thinks that although his future career may not involve the knowledge of a history degree, taking history has widely broadened his writing and analysis skills.

His number one piece of advice to younger students just embarking on their GCSEs or A-levels is to "accept the possibility that you might not know how to do everything and not loathe yourself for it." He thinks that sometimes you won't accomplish something that someone expects you to, and it's "fine not to be a well-rounded human at 16 or 17... and actually, nobody expects you to be!



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Don't put too much pressure on yourself. Work hard, of course, and do you best, but don't get bogged down if you don't know what you want to do. Follow things that interest you; be interested in what's around you, and, if you engage with them, you'll become a pretty interesting person!"

Recently, Julian applied to the Canadian military to become a logistics officer. He looks back fondly at his time here and will "always be indebted to my fellow students and teachers at BST."

*Article written by BST Year 9 student,
Emile Gelencsér (November 2021)*



*Outside of King's College London Strand
Campus*



*Julian's view of London from his student
accommodation at King's*



Solo-trip to Prague



Trip to Dover