

## **Transcript of selected comments received from pupil-participants in the Media Space programme**

*"I found the project to be extremely insightful, intellectually stimulating and a generally fantastic experience. The project gave me exposure into the world of astrophysics and physics that would have been beyond my realms at the tender age of 15/16, and for that I'm extremely thankful to Professor Murray and all parties involved in making the project happen. After attaining straight A\*s in my A-levels (Maths, Physics, English), I'm currently studying Physics at University College London (UCL)... The project was definitely a tool that strengthened my interest in science and physics in particular."*

*"I still remember the Media Space project that was selected for [sic] during secondary school. It was a truly great experience, allowing me to understand more about the universe and how mankind will always be striving to uncover the truth about life and evolution by pushing the limits of exploration... Since Morpeth, I went onto college where I obtained 4 A\* in Maths, Further Maths, Physics and Electronics. I am now studying for my undergraduate masters in mathematics at UCL... My close set of friends, who also took part in the Space project, are also studying for Sciences at degree level and are progressing toward finishing their studies."*

*"I have just graduated as a Primary teacher. I loved everything about the [Media Space] project, it was such a great opportunity and an amazing life experience in itself! It impacted on my life in many positive ways and I think other students should be given such opportunities. "*

*"When I applied at the age of 15 I did not know how life changing the Media Space project would be. It has been one of the most exciting experiences of my life. It has given me a giant stepping stone to pave the way for me to achieve my dreams. Going to NASA, along with my other amazing prizes, has given me so much confidence in my ambitions and has allowed me to meet very interesting people... I am now off to Imperial college London with the hope one day of being at the forefront of the U.K.'s Space programme."*

*"Media Space has been an unforgettable experience...! It has improved my communication skills which has been a great benefit to me... The Media Space programme has increased my knowledge about space... Furthermore, Media Space has benefitted my education as it has made me consider working in the space industry in the future and the programme will look fantastic on my personal statement when applying for university...! Overall, the Media Space programme has been a life-changing experience and has enable for me to visit many places and meet many people who I wouldn't have been [able to] meet otherwise! I would definitely recommend Media Space to other students and use television, radio and the internet and other forms of media to inform them about it. The Media Space programme should definitely continue as it will benefit more students' education and can improve their skills that are needed when they enter the workplace."*

*"Media Space has provided me with many opportunities and encouraged me to find out more about space! It definitely helped improve my communication skills, and also gave me exposure to professional environments that I had never been subjected to before. These skills will definitely help me in the future. It also gave me an opportunity to meet like-minded people and broaden my knowledge and understanding of space... I would definitely recommend Media Space to others as the projects run by them are ideal stages for young people like me to showcase our interest in science and help us strive toward our future ambitions."*

*“What Media Space has given me... Media Space has given me the following:*

*Skills: Confidence in dealing with professional people*

*Knowledge of space: Media Space has given me so much knowledge of outer space that I can't begin to sum it up. What I have learned has given me an idea of how little I know, compared with infinite world that's out there. It's increased my passion for astronomy and given me an even stronger thirst to discover yet more in the future.*

*Contacts: Through this project I've met some awe-inspiring people... All of them were so modest and had so much time to explain to us their careers and what they have learned. It motivated me that they had such an interest in the next generation of space scientists.*

*Career direction: Media Space reinforced my desire to pursue a career in astrophysics. My visit to QMUL left me longing to study this subject when I am the right age to go to university. “*