

Name: June Low Yi-Ling

University: Plymouth University

Placement Dates: April 2016 (4 weeks)

Organisation	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Teaching	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Surgical Exposure	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Hands on Experience	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Hospitality	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Accommodation	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Overall Experience	★ ★ ★ ★ ★

'I had the most incredible 4 week placement here in The James Cook Hospital with the cardiothoracic team. Everyone was so welcoming, friendly and willing to teach!

There was another medical student doing a placement at the same time. But it did not matter as we were free to join any theatre list depending on what we would like to have more exposure to. We also discussed regularly between us which case we would like to take and we made good friends as we were sharing the same career aspirations.

I spent most of my time in the thoracic lists because I had not seen any before this. On my first day, I already had the chance of putting in a chest drain. The unit made me felt part of the team and I was comfortable assisting in every case and closing up wounds whenever it was appropriate. I also had the chance to assist in vein harvestings and did a sternotomy. I really liked that I was given the freedom to tailor my own learning. The friendly cardiothoracic team who made me feel at home really helped too.

I achieved all my learning objectives and got even more from this placement than what I had expected. Thank you so much!'