

Molly 2012 - 2015

I joined Charlotte House in Year 4, coming from a large co-ed state school, which I hated. From the moment I arrived, Charlotte House felt more like a home than a school. Instead of heading out to a big, noisy playground, we had a peaceful garden to play in. With such a small school, everyone knew everyone, and we quickly formed a close-knit community. We ate lunch together in our houses, and the older girls would often help the younger ones, making us all feel like sisters. I loved spending time with the little ones, pushing them on the swings and teaching them games.

The smaller classes made such a difference, too. I was much more comfortable speaking to teachers and adults, and no one ever got overlooked. The connections I made at Charlotte House have stayed with me long after leaving. We all keep in touch through social media, and I’ll always carry those friendships with me. Looking back, Charlotte House gave me more than an education—it gave me a sense of belonging and confidence that I still treasure today.

I’m currently studying Prosthetics and Special Effects Film Makeup at Bournemouth Arts Uni, and I can honestly say that Charlotte House played a huge part in getting me here. It was at Charlotte House that I discovered my true passion for art, and it gave me the self-belief to pursue it as a career. In just two and a half years, I went from feeling invisible and lacking confidence to feeling capable and proud of who I was. Charlotte House didn’t just teach me academics—it helped me find my voice and discover my strengths. It set me on a path I never imagined for myself, and I’ll always be grateful for that.

When I look back now, I can confidently say that the time I spent at Charlotte House was some of the happiest of my childhood. The support, the friendships, and the confidence I gained there are things I still carry with me today.