

North Shore Speech – Zihan Zhang (RM)

Good morning parents, students and teachers. It is an absolute pleasure to be able to stand here today and share my experiences with you.

I am Zihan Zhang and I'm currently a Year 7 student at Perth Modern and was also awarded a scholarship at Methodist Ladies College. In sharing my roller coaster journey, I hope that you understand that life won't always go your way and you need to always try your best in any aspect of life.

Fortunately, I am the recipient of a scholarship at the Methodist Ladies College and also gained admittance to Perth Modern through GATE. Firstly, I would like to thank North Shore and all the staff and teachers who are so dedicated in teaching the students and making sure every lesson is fun and enjoyable. North Shore has been a place where I not only developed academic skills but it also taught me how to be more social and make more friends.

My journey at North Shore started at Rossmoyne SHS school, when I was in Year 1, not knowing a single word in English. North Shore helped me overcome this. The first day I started, I was so stressed about the teachers thinking I would be an inconvenience to them and ignoring me. But it was completely the opposite, the teachers would just come and sit next to me and try to help me comprehend a word, question or even a whole text. The following years, after I have become a fluent English speaker, I would still struggle in class but North Shore had motivated me to try my best every in every homework task, and also every test. In my years at North Shore I have received at least one Certificate of Excellence every time. After a few weeks, I made many new friends.

Every week, after North Shore ended, I would attend the support classes. At first I thought this class was just so I can finish all my homework and have more free-time while I was at home. I was so wrong. I needed help for most of the maths homework and then I realised, that North Shore is able to challenge me. Before the GATE exam, I participated in the Intensive Holiday Tutoring and I was really challenged by the questions we did. As well as getting challenged, I was able to learn how to do these questions which were close to the level of GATE exam.

Lastly, I would like to thank my parents for supporting me throughout my journey at North Shore and encouraging me to do my best. North Shore is a great tutoring centre which has taught me to put everything towards not just maths questions but everything in life. Life is like a valley where you have to climb up, and try your best not to fall down the slopes, it will be hard to do this, but one day, when you are older, you will look back at the path you've taken and be astonished that you went that far, and persisted.

Thank you for your time.

Zihan Zhang