



**Durham**  
University

Access and Engagement

Inspiring the extraordinary

## Meet Hassan...

**Hassan grew up in the United Arab Emirates. He graduated from the college of St Hild and St Bede with a degree in Biological Sciences. He was the first in his family to go to university. He is now the CEO of his own business based in Newcastle.**

"I was motivated by my parents and I knew I wanted to get a degree and experience university life. I wanted to get into a top university. I looked at the top universities in the league table and applied based on academic reputation and opportunity to get involved in the wider student community and develop other extra-curricular skills.

I was able to get involved in quite a few societies and clubs. I developed social skills, and other essential skills valued by employers such as leadership, communication, time-management and teamwork. University is a diverse place with students from various countries and backgrounds. This makes you more culturally aware and helps develop a global mindset. University is a once in a lifetime opportunity, and if you have the chance, you should definitely take it. The experience, skills and friends you will make can't be matched by anything else."

