



**TANATSA
TAURINGANA**

NCSEXPERIENCE

To be honest I didn't really want to do NCS in the first place because I didn't know anyone else who was going and I thought I wouldn't make any friends but I decided to go at the last minute because I had seen pictures of my friends who had previously went and also I wanted to step out of my comfort zone and see if it would really be a "experience to change my life".

While I was in Swanage I created some really good friendships with the people I shared a room with and others. I thought that everyone would be really bitchy but no one was like that at all and that's what I liked most about this experience. Is the fact that everyone was in the same boat and everyone just got on with it and there was not arguments or disagreements. During the week we were at citygate I learnt alot of new skills and gained alot of insight into the world around us. The social action project that we choose was Fern heath play and helping the play centre out made me feel so go about myself and knowing that we are helping children makes it even better. I was so happy with what we were able to achieved in the few days that we were there and the staff there were very grateful for all the work we had done.

At graduation I sang 'Say something' while photos of our NCS experience were playing in the background for me that was the highlight of my NCS Experience because from a young age I have always loved to sing but I was scared that people would judge me or I wasn't good enough and after my performance I felt a buzz inside of me because I had concurred my fear.

For me NCS was all about stepping out of my comfort zone and doing things that I would never imagine doing and I think through NCS it has taught me to always say yes to things no matter how sacred I am and I will always remember this as one of best things that I have ever done:)

Tanatsa

NCS TEAMLEADER

Tanatsa was a last minute sign up and I admired the fact she was the only one from her school on the course. You could tell she was nervous on the first day as she didn't really know anyone and kind of kept to herself. When we started with the team building games she got stuck in and was very quickly a popular member of the team.

As the residential went on and into the following week you could see she had found her self a nice group of girls to hang around with and they all got on well. She still didn't really say much in group settings and was happy just to sit back and observe.

When we started our SAP she found her voice a lot more and was happy to put her opinions across. She was so hard working and always having a laugh with the girls she had met.

At the beginning of the course Tanatsa told me she could sing and I made a joke about her performing at graduation. She kind of shied away from the comment and laughed it off. I said no more about it, just watched her develop as the course progressed. I knew I had to ask her again to perform and this time she said yes! We didn't make too much of a big deal about it as I knew she wouldn't like that, but she did tell all the friends she made on the course and they all got behind her.

The moment she stepped on that stage and started singing, made me so proud of her and how far she had come. It was the perfect ending to an amazing course. The smile on her face after she came off the stage was brilliant, you could see just how happy she was at having done that.

Racheal Cheney



