



### **ENGLISH CAREERS TALK BY FORMER URSULINE STUDENT, PRECIOUS SODIMU**

Having Precious come in to talk about her personal experience in English was an enlightening and eye-opening experience. As Precious herself is a young speaker (only 24), we as an audience were able to relate to her on a more individual and personal level about her journey and her explanation of how her study of English at A Level and then at degree level can open doors to careers we never thought of!

Precious, being an Ursuline Academy Ilford alumni, inspired us even further as she is a fellow Ursuline student who is now a successful career woman and role model. Likewise, Precious, also coming from an African household, especially resonated with us, as we and many of our school community also come from ethnic minority households, which favour going into medical fields or aspiring for law degrees and tend to frown upon other passions.

As we both currently are A-Level English Literature students and personally want to pursue English degrees in the future, Precious' story really encouraged us to go beyond our family expectations and find our own paths. We're grateful for the opportunity to hear Precious share her story and wish her all best for the future!

*Elizabeth Akande (13.2) & Romisa Aldrinamalasuthakaran (13.1)*



It was wonderful to have Precious back at UAI again, and this time sharing her journey of how her love of English, and her passion for the subject led her to her current career working as a copywriter for one of the UK's leading beauty retailers, Cult Beauty.

Precious' talk was a refreshing combination of honesty and enthusiasm, which really seemed to engage and speak to our pupils. Precious' talk was both inspiring and informative as she shared the reality of her 'anything but linear' path, the ups and downs she has experienced, and the hard work she put in to get where she now is. The audience, made up of the whole of Year 10 and Year 11, as well as our current A-Level English Literature pupils, clearly enjoyed the talk, giving Precious a warm welcome and plenty of applause, as well as some really heartfelt and thoughtful feedback afterwards.

I really do hope that Precious' sharing of her passion has helped to spark a passion in some of her listeners and open up their eyes to the possibilities that studying English and having a career in English can lead you to!

Serviam Precious, Once an Ursuline, Always an Ursuline!

**Ms Cooper, Head of English**