**CV:**

**Ben Page**

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**Education:**

2023-to date: The University of Manchester

BSc (Hons) Optometry, expecting to graduate June 2026

2016-2023: Ripley St Thomas Church of England Academy

A level: Biology (B), Chemistry (C), Geography (A\*)

GCSEs: 9 (one grade 9, five grade 8s, three grade 7s)

**Personal profile:**

Studying and living in Manchester for the past year, along with obtaining relevant work experience, has allowed me to develop the necessary skills and qualities to be a part of your practice. These include excellent communication, the ability to reflect, be independent and also work with colleagues and have a good work-life balance. Outside of work, I enjoy going to the gym which helps me to maintain both a good mental and physical state and I often go stargazing which I have had a passion for from a very young age.

**Work experience:**

July 2025: a week's placement at the Manchester Royal Eye Hospital:

* Experienced the day-to-day running of multiple clinics in the Royal Eye Hospital including glaucoma assessment, vitreoretinal, macular treatment centre, medical retina and the emergency eye department.
* Shadowed a surgeon performing pterygium removal surgery in theatre which involved a conjunctival autograft and adding an amniotic membrane to act as a temporary bandage for the eye.
* Observed a patient having a vabysmo injection to treat their wet age-related macular degeneration, along with the process that goes with it such as administering the local anaesthetic and cleaning the surface of the eye.
* Saw a range of patients with a range of eye conditions including narrow angle glaucoma, a full thickness macular hole, megalocorneas, sickle cell retinopathy and a retinal detachment.

June 2022: work experience in the Opthalmology department at the Royal Lancaster infirmary:

* Shadowed an ophthalmologist for a week, observing several different eye examinations and treatments performed on a range of patients.
* Watched laser treatment being performed on a patient with glaucoma.
* Witnessed post-operative eye stitches being removed.
* Came across some unusual cases such as a patient whose inner and outer layers of their optic cup in one eye didn’t fully join in the foetus, leading to problems such as high intraocular pressure.

**Previous employment:**

June-August 2024: 7 weeks summer placement at Specsavers Lancaster:

* Worked on the back desk which involved taking autorefractions and pressures for patients, along with doing the fundus scans, OCT scans and visual fields testing which allowed me to get hands on experience with some of the optometric equipment.
* Carried out collections which involved making sure the frames had a good, comfortable fit on the patient and ensuring the patient had good vision when wearing the spectacles.
* Served a range of patients with a range of ages and needs which helped me to develop my communication skills and confidence further as well as how to tailor my language, body language and formality to different patients.
* Undertook other jobs such as filing spectacles and contact lenses, doing contact lens collections, taking patients to their contact lens fittings, repairing glasses, booking patients in and phoning patients to inform them that there is a delay in their glasses order.
* Developed a clear overview of how a practice runs on a day-to-day basis.
* Observed some of the optometrists at work by sitting in and observing several eye tests on a range of age groups.

**Positions of responsibility:**

2022-2023: Maths mentor for Ripley St Thomas:

* Mentored the younger students at the school who struggled with basic mathematics by spending an hour a week practicing key maths skills with them, teaching them new methods and finding ways to help them remember basic numeracy skills such as timetables.
* Signed off the students when I judged that they could do a task.
* Made the work fun and engaging for the students, showing my ability to think on the spot.

2022-2023: Year 11 form assistant at Ripley St Thomas:

* Delivered a presentation during form time once a week for the year 11 students which developed my confidence and presentation skills.
* Refined my teamwork skills by working in a group to deliver these presentations.
* Presentations included tips on exam preparation, how to revise effectively and how to destress during exam periods.

**References:**

Gemma Gould

Faculty of Life Sciences, University of Manchester

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Dover Street

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