



St Ignatius College student Nathan Dignam has been selected to attend the International Youth Science Forum in London this month. Picture: DAVE CRONIN

Experiments lead to London

Kurtis Eichler

NATHAN Dignam grew up listening to stories of his family's medical triumphs.

The son of a psychiatrist and a physiotherapist, the ambitious St Ignatius College student is one step closer to following in his parents' footsteps and forging his own career in medicine.

The 17-year-old Year 12 student, of Hampstead Gardens, will fly to London this week for the two-week International Youth Science

Forum. He is one of only 10 Australian students attending the event.

Nathan wants to pursue a career in medicine or neuroscience.

"It's sort of a cliché answer but I just really like helping people and helping make their lives better and medicine is a great way to do that," Nathan says. "You can see the effect your work can have on people."

Nathan, who achieved A grades in physics, chemistry and biology last term, will visit laboratories in London

and listen to lectures from world-renowned scientists.

He will also have a chance to do some sightseeing.

He was hand-picked by his school to attend the forum after achieving stellar results in national chemistry quizzes and international science competitions.

"It's going to be a great experience because it's an opportunity to meet people with a passion for science from across the world."

More than 350 people from around the world will attend the event.