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

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 cliche 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 As 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 all over the world.”

More than 500 people from around the world will attend the event.