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# eastendlife

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## Designs on a new career

"There isn't a stereotypical competitive atmosphere amongst the finalists. I've had so much good, honest advice at Central Saint Martin's I feel much happier making career choices."

DESIGN STUDENT AYSHA SIMPSON

## Hunt for kn

Be inspired to visit museums and galleries available in the borough

# Aysha proves a cut above

BY SHALINA HUSSAIN

**MOVE over Vivienne Westwood and Alexander McQueen! A talented teenager has got designs on stealing their thunder by being a cut above the rest.**

Aysha Simpson, a pupil at Raine's Foundation School in Bethnal Green, is busy putting the finishing touches to an outfit to be showcased at London Fashion Week.

The 17-year-old was chosen from hundreds of hopefuls by Fashion Awareness Direct (FAD6) to design an outfit inspired by Chinese history and culture.

The teenager has just spent

a week at Central St Martin's College in west London bringing her design to life with expert advice from tutors.

Aysha said: "Spending this week at Central Saint Martin's has been a lot of hard work."

"But I've really enjoyed the experience. I have learnt a lot about pattern cutting."

"Before I always made my own clothes by draping on a mannequin, but I now realise it's easier to use patterns."

Aysha and 21 other hopeful young designers, will also be jetting off to Barcelona during the summer.

They will be visiting the design studios of Mango and compete for a work placement place in the fashion industry.

She added: "Doing the FAD Fashion Futures 2 project has made me feel more confident. Everyone has really supported me and each other."

"There isn't a stereotypical competitive atmosphere among the finalists at all."

"I've had so much good, honest advice from everyone at Central Saint Martin's, that I feel much happier making career choices as a result."

"I felt the FAD brief was interesting and I liked to be challenged to do something different, to have to really base my ideas on something so specific and cultural."

The winner of the FAD Junior Awards will be announced on September 17.



Aysha shows off her latest design