

## CASSANDRA GAINS QUALIFICATIONS BY DEGREES



Aberdeen College graduate Cassandra West and her Mum Shelley.

**A FORMER pupil of The Gordon Schools who left after fourth year and went to Aberdeen College, graduated recently.**

Cassandra West (20) arrived at Aberdeen College quite sure in her mind that Social Sciences was the right subject for her.

At school her Career Adviser had suggested that she would be well suited to the course and having been to an open day and spoken to lecturing staff, she had no hesitation in applying.

Graduate Cassandra said, "As soon as I started the course, I knew I had made the right choice. The lecturers were great, really supportive and I found the subject itself fascinating."

Cassandra went from the Introduction to Social Sciences course to Routes to Higher Education: Social Sciences where she sat a number of Highers, and then onto HNC Social Sciences, before finally completing her HND.

During her four years at college, Cassandra gained qualifications each year.

She continued, "When I came to Aberdeen College I had just turned 16 and everything was new to me. However from day one, the lecturers made me feel welcome. I soon met friends and my confidence level grew leaps and bounds. By the time I began my HND I knew that university was the next step for me and I knew I would be able to cope with the added work and pressure."

Cassandra has now enrolled with the Open University, one of the ten universities which Aberdeen College has articulation links with and is studying for BA /BSc (Hons) Combined Social Sciences. She is in the process of completing her first two assessments in criminology, a favourite subject of mine.

Cassandra has applied for an Open University Internship with the Citizens Advice Bureau which would allow her to earn while she learns and gain practical experience to back up her qualification.