

What I did at Elstree

Monday 25th October 2021

At 9:30am my friends and I met at the entrance of Elstree film Studio Academy. When we went in, a member of their staff showed us to the cinema room. We had to wait half an hour for everyone to arrive. Eventually, after everyone had arrived, someone called Kai put on some of the 3 – 5 minutes movies that were made by children that were invited to Elstree in the past.

After watching the short films, we had a long break and had some lunch. Then we went to a computer room and discussed ideas about our film. After talking and thinking about our film, we chose one of us to write down our script. Kai gave us some useful tips and ideas. It took two hours to write down the finished script. We then went home. In the evening, we received an e-mail – it was our script. I couldn't wait to go back to Elstree to shoot our film.

Thursday 28th October 2021

Today we were going to make our film. I got my packed lunch and I got into the car. We then met yet again outside the entrance of Elstree Film Studio Academy. This time, when we entered, we sat down on a sofa and waited to go in. We met with the man that was going to edit and help us shoot our film.

We told him our ideas and we started to shoot the breakfast scene. We learned that you need different lights to make the background look more effective. During that time, I didn't have to act so I listened if everyone spoke loudly. To do this, one of my friends held a big and long microphone called a boom. This was connected to the headphones that I was wearing. The boom was held over the actors' heads so the sounds they were making were louder in the actual movie. I had to listen to this.

Next was the scene that the actors split up to look for Andrew. I still had to listen from my headphones and my friend still had to hold the boom above the actors' heads. This scene was quite short compared to the other scenes in the film. There were only eight words being said. We also used the lights to make the background look spectacular.

We then did the scene where everyone found something that belonged to Andrew. In this behind-the-scene, I had to push the camera forward to make the scenery look mysterious. I did this with every object that was found that belonged to Andrew. Once we had filmed the scene, we then had lunch. Lunch was nice as it felt like we had been working for ages.

The scene where everyone found Andrew was next and since I had to act as Andrew, I was the one that had to act dead! This scene was my favorite. My friend that was holding the boom had to be the one in the movie that murdered me and my other friends who found me. In this case we didn't use the lights as we were acting in a very small kitchen.

Surprisingly, the scene that was the first in the film was made last: the classroom scene.

Everyone acted in this scene. It was quite a long one. We used blue lights for this scene. The whole point of this scene was that I had to be annoying to the teacher. That's why he murdered me.

We then went home. A few days after this experience, Elstree sent the finished film to us by e-mail. It was very well edited. It looked so mysterious and realistic. I loved it and hope to go there again some time!

By Panos