

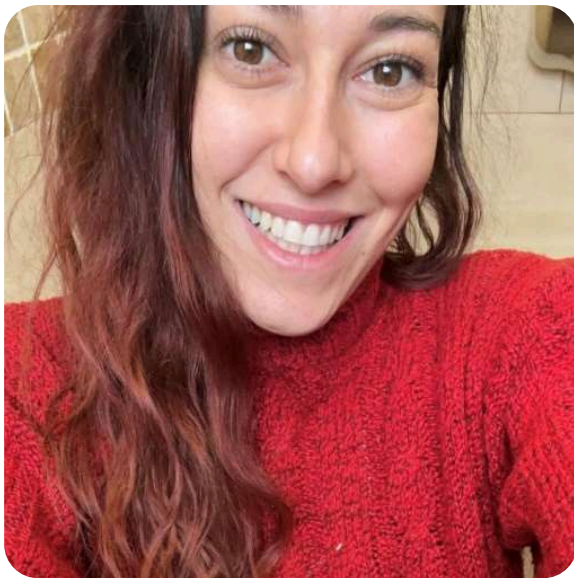


# The Newlanders

Newlands Girls' School Alumnae

# ALUMNAE BOOKLET

Let their journies inspire you...



# SOCIAL WORKER

*After Newlands I completed a 2 years BTEC course at Langley College studying Health and Social Care Level 3 after not doing very well academically in 6th form I found my passion and right learning style in the BTEC approach mixed with work experience which meant I was able to excel in my course.*

*This course provided me with the basics on my social work knowledge and gave me a path way into work experience which I continued as a voluntary role in a drugs and alcohol service supporting adults with addiction. Whilst volunteering and studying I was offered a full-time job there so I decided to apply for university but defer my course for a year and within that time I worked full time for around 8 months in the service before going travelling in a converted van around Europe for a few months.*

*In September 2015 I started my Social Work Degree at The University of Winchester where I realised how much I had struggled academically throughout my whole education and was able to reflect on my learning style and challenges I faced which had massively impacted my self-esteem and attitude to learning as a child.*

*Despite the challenges I was able to complete my degree with completing two amazing work placements and qualifying in 2018 with an Upper Class Honours (2:1). I was blessed to get a Social Work job in the same local authority as I did my placement in and have had remained working in front line Children Services doing a few different roles over the past 6 years.*

*I'm currently working in a 16+ leaving care team and absolutely love it!*

Francesca Palmieri

Left Newlands 2012

A Levels BTEC

Business AS English

Language Italian

BTEC Health and  
Social Care Level 3

Social Work BA

## FRANCESCA'S TIPS FOR YOU

### BELIEVE IN YOURSELF!

A-Levels were not for me, but Newlands made me who i am today. With support from some special teachers I changed my life around, became Head Girl and mentored younger peers!

### FIND SOMETHING YOU ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT!

This will make the more  
challenging days easier!

### BE KIND TO YOURSELF

Give yourself positive  
affirmations.



## SUSTAINABILITY CONSULTING ASSOCIATE AT PWC

*My time at Newlands ended abruptly as Covid-19 hit in March 2020, during my final year. Having really enjoyed studying economics at A-Level, I decided to pursue it further as a degree. However, I found myself struggling to connect with my degree, especially with all the disruptions caused by the pandemic. I was also uncertain about my future career path in traditional fields like accounting or finance, leading me to question whether my degree aligned with my interests.*

*In my final year, we had the freedom to choose modules and a dissertation topic that interested us. I found the sustainability and environmental modules refreshing compared to the algebra and theory that I was used to. I also took several courses focused on sustainability offered by my university, and got involved in eco-friendly initiatives on campus. These experiences reignited my passion for the environment, which had started during my time at Newlands. Reflecting on my involvement in the school strikes for climate marches and delivering assemblies on climate change as a geography prefect, I realized my passion for sustainability had resurfaced, prompting a huge career pivot in my final year.*

*When exploring post-uni options, I stumbled upon an internship opportunity at PwC in their sustainability division. Although I knew PwC as a prestigious financial services firm, I was unaware of their sustainability division, or that careers in this field even existed. After being accepted, I spent my graduation summer working in central London on a number of impactful environmental projects. This experience boosted my confidence, reignited my spark and led to a full-time position in the Sustainability Reporting division at PwC.*

*One of my proudest achievements has been developing an AI tool to analyse clients' sustainability reports, to ensure that global companies are being transparent about their environmental footprint, and offering solutions to transition their ways of working toward a greener future. Collaborating with colleagues globally, I'm continually inspired by the collective effort to drive positive change and I look forward to what my future has in store.*

Blaise Wheeler

Left Newlands  
2020

A Levels

Geography  
English Literature  
Economics  
EPQ

Economics

### BLAISE'S TIPS FOR YOU

Take your time: it's natural to feel overwhelmed but rushing into choices can lead to regrets.

Don't be scared to pause and do your research before making any major decisions.

Confidence is key: You will never regret facing challenges head-on, being present and making that impression.

Seek experience: gaining experience and filling up your CV with internships, courses and part-time jobs will help you stand out far more than just having good grades will.



Ashley Lawrence

Left Newlands  
2014

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A Levels

Media Studies  
English Literature  
Economics

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Filmmaking BA

## FILM AND TV PA

*After completing my A-Levels I went straight into a filmmaking degree at Kingston University. Whilst there I was lucky enough to complete an internship with the BFI Southbank as well as doing occasional work on advertising shoots. Throughout University I worked on my craft and understanding of the industry, resulting in a film I directed being screened at the Genesis Cinema in East London. Following Graduation, I took a year to myself to create my own work and explore further where I wanted my career to go.*

*During this time, I attended a number of educational and training days relating to the industry, including Sky Studios and Channel 4. I was also lucky enough to get unpaid experience on the films Paddington 2 and Rocketman.*

*I got my first real break in the industry by approaching a shoot here in Maidenhead a year ago, where they took me on as a member of the locations department and since then it has snowballed. I have since been continuously working on a string of different high budget productions, travelling to many different areas of the country and working with some of the best in the Film and Television Industry. By getting the on-set experience I was then able to make the relevant contacts and have achieved a place within the Industry's most respected recruitment company, which has allowed me to start the move over to the assistant director's department, where I have had the opportunity to work with a handful of household name actors and where I hope to work my way up.*

*It has not been a quick or easy process getting to where I am, and I am only at the beginning of my career. Working within the Film and TV industry is not for the faint hearted, and is definitely not for everyone, but despite the long, unsociable hours and high workloads and pressure, I love my job and wouldn't change it for the world.*

### ASHLEY'S TIPS FOR YOU

Everyone's journey is different, and everyone's experiences will give them different insight and knowledge. If you feel like you aren't on the same path as others and things aren't going to plan, don't worry. As long as you are passionate and seize the opportunities you are given, you will be fine.

Don't panic, do your research and have fun whilst you are doing it.





# CLOUD SOLUTION ARCHITECT

*After leaving Newlands, I studied at The Henley College and passed with A\*, A, B in Geography, Information Technology and Photography.*

*From my experiences, I understood I had interests in Emerging Technology and People. I decided to apply to study Computer Science with Management Sciences at the University of Leicester. My degree allowed me to explore behavioural sciences as well as the heavy technical knowledge that comes with a Computer Science degree.*

*In my second year of study, I completed an Internship at Microsoft as part of the Adoption and Change Management Practice. This experience gave me the opportunity to work with many large public sector organisations to understand what they need to succeed when adopting new technology.*

*The technical knowledge I had attained over my degree also supported my conviction over the year and it was great to return to University with industrial experience. I achieved a First-Class Honours in my degree and was offered the position of a Cloud Solution Architect at Microsoft, as part of the Graduate Aspire Program, which brings 1000 Graduates together as part of a worldwide program to nurture and support Technology leaders of the future.*

*Though this is very much the start of my career journey, it has been a great learning experience so far and I look forward to what the future has in store.*

*Watch this space!*

Jashan Johal

Left Newlands  
2013

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Computer  
Science with  
Management  
Sciences

## JASHAN'S TIPS FOR YOU

Be adventurous, take on the challenge!

Be your best friend through your career journey.

Do things that you enjoy and learn something about yourself from (Sports, House Captain, Peer Mediator, DoE to name a few!)

Focus on your studies – they'll be the key for you to explore the world!

Be fearless and thrive on not knowing everything – that is what learning is for!

Don't compare your journey to anyone else



# CONSERVATION WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER

*When I was initially thinking about what subject to study at university I was torn between my head and my heart. My head told me to study business studies, my heart, however, wanted to do art. It had always been my favourite subject and whilst some thought I was crazy to do so, I went with my heart and studied Fine Art for both my undergraduate and postgraduate at University of Kent.*

*However, after I finished my postgraduate, I struggled to get a job in my field. At the time, I was working two jobs, one as a freelance art tutor and another for Waitrose, who both offered me a sabbatical to travel for 9 months. I began this by volunteering with African Impact on their conservation wildlife photography project, as I had loved travel photography for a long time and was keen to learn more about wildlife photography.*

*Little did I know it at the time, but this would be a life-changing decision. About 8 months after I left the project, the photography manager got in touch and asked if I would like to come back as the photography project assistant for a year. It was a risk as the position was unpaid but I readily accepted.*

*The opportunity to live in, and teach something I loved in Africa was irresistible. 18 months on since I made the move, I am still here and have since been promoted twice, to Photography Coordinator and to my current position as Second Photographer, running a 4 week conservation wildlife photography project.*

*Whilst if you had asked me 5 years ago where I would be today, teaching photography in Africa would be one of the last things I would have said, but I am loving every minute and couldn't imagine doing anything else!*

Sophie Brown  
Left Newlands 2011

—————  
BA Honours in Fine  
Art  
—————

Masters with  
Distinction in Fine  
Art Studies

## SOPHIE'S TIPS FOR YOU

Don't be afraid to take a risk if it offers you the opportunity to do something you love.

You will never work harder than for something you are truly passionate about.

Do not worry about the path you may take to get there, as in my experience, there is no perfect path to take, just have faith that everything will work out exactly how it should do in the end.



Hana Ellis

Left Newlands 2012

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Marketing, Design  
and Communications  
at Nottingham Trent  
University

## MARKETING EXECUTIVE

*After Newlands, I continued my academic journey in Marketing, Design and Communications at Nottingham Trent University.*

*It took me a long time to decide on applying to Marketing courses as I was so convinced that a career in the sciences was the way forward! But I realised that I enjoyed Business Studies so why not make a career out of that!*

*As part of the university course, I was required to undertake a one- year placement and after my second year at university, I secured a position in BMW's Marketing team. This was so incredibly valuable as I was able to put the theory I had learned into practice, get some real-life marketing experience and make great contacts. A placement year was incredibly helpful for my final year- including my dissertation- as well as for work as I was able to use the contacts I had, to secure roles while at university and after graduation.*

*My first two roles after my placement year were agency side, so we would be briefed by our client as to what they wanted with their product and present them with the results of the campaign. However, I soon found that agency side just was not for me so I decided to go back to client side and now I am a Marketing Executive at a global smart meter manufacturer, helping to lead the marketing department as our company plays a key role in Great Britain's national smart meter rollout and as we expand further into other parts of Europe.*

*As a Marketing Executive, my role is more general so I get to work across a number of high profile and varied projects such as social media management and planning, event management, internal communications, website management, market analysis, invoicing and customer communications via email marketing.*

*I have also recently started my own volunteering project to help students gain further insight into careers in Business & Marketing by providing talks, workshops and an online platform.*

### HANA'S TIPS FOR YOU

Never underestimate the value of experience:

Any small amount of experience is good experience – so take that three week internship at your local business and build up some real life working examples to showcase your skills!

Advertise yourself!

Write an advert for yourself as if you are a product!

Include your key skills, benefits and features but don't forget to keep it realistic and accurate as you will need to back this up in applications and interviews!

Make time for your hobbies  
Relieve the stresses of life by continuing to follow your passion in your hobbies. It's a great distraction and adds further to your skill set!



# ROYAL AIR FORCE PILOT

*As my final years at Newlands raced past I had little idea what to do when I left.*

*I'd always fancied being a pilot but had no idea how to go about it.*

*I ended up applying to medical school as I enjoyed science and it seemed like a sensible option, and after completing my A-Levels I began the course at King's College London.*

*During my first year I decided it wasn't for me, switched to a Neuroscience degree (unrelated but interesting!) and decided I would pursue a career in flying. I joined the University Air Squadron, which is funded by the RAF and offers free flying lessons, as well as insight into what a career in the forces might be like.*

*Once in, I was hooked on the people, the flying, and the opportunities for sport and outdoor pursuits. I applied to join the RAF as a pilot twice, and was successful on my second attempt.*

*I began my training in 2010 and now fly the Chinook helicopter. I've travelled to Afghanistan, Oman, California, Europe, and have spent time aboard British and French war ships. It's been hard work at times, but highlights such as flying over Buckingham Palace as part of the RAF100 Flypast, or landing a 20 ton helicopter on the back of a ship more than compensate!*

Jenny Boyd  
Left Newlands 2005

BSc in Neuroscience,  
MSc in War &  
Psychiatry

## JENNY'S TIPS FOR YOU

Don't be afraid of changing direction if you realise your chosen path isn't for you!

Spend time researching how you can make a career out of something that genuinely interests you - it might not be part of the standard list you grow up knowing about, but could be absolutely perfect for you.





# USER EXPERIENCE ARCHITECT

*At school I always knew I wanted a future and lifestyle in the design industry. My art teachers helped me to explore various modes of artistic expression, communication and they were the only people in my life at that stage I could talk to about design in general.*

*After I completed my secondary and A-level education at Newlands, I went on to study Art Foundation at Reading College with the advice from Newlands career advisors. That led me to study Graphic Design at University for the Creative Arts in Surrey.*

*My first job after university was nothing design related! I worked as a temp for 1 year in administration jobs and was constantly applying for internships and small creative freelance jobs. These footprints lead to a role as a web designer for a global pharmaceutical brand. I had to teach myself to code and I loved designing and building websites!*

*After that I went onto other design roles in financial services, mobile, telecommunications, software, agencies and all the time I was growing as a designer. Improving my skill set, networking with likeminded people, travelling and learning new skills.*

*Throughout my career I have had opportunities to create brand identities, advertising, global websites, apps, event experiences, user experiences and lots of presenting!*

Shabana

Ahmed

Left Newlands 2003

—————  
Currently working for  
a bio life sciences  
agency

—————  
Studied Graphic  
Design

## SHABANA'S TIPS FOR YOU

Don't worry about what your job title should be, think about what motivates you?

What is your passion and makes you light up? Go ahead and pursue that!

Find internships and opportunities and reach out to people who can give you insight and open these small doors for you.

Never stop working hard, be kind to others and lead with good manners. Those small doors will always lead to bigger doors. So be brave!



# GRADUATE TRAINEE

*When I left Newlands after GCSEs I was unwell and decided to focus on my health rather than my education. This allowed me time to work out what I wanted to do and create an alternative path for myself.*

*Once I was well enough, I applied to do a foundation degree (FdSc) in food science at Plymouth University. After completing this I did a top up year gaining a Bsc Hons in food marketing management at Sheffield Hallam. I have now just entered my second year at Morrisons Manufacturing graduate training.*

*Morrisons are not just a supermarket but a vertically integrated company owning logistics and manufacturing sites as well as retail stores and petrol stations. We are the 4th biggest supermarket and 2nd largest food manufacturer in the UK.*

*My training takes me on rotations to learn the business from all perspectives and complete all sorts of different projects. At the end of my second year I will get a management or specialist role depending on what I decide I want to do.*

*My top tip for the girls are: Don't worry if things don't always go to plan or you change your mind about what you want to do in life. It is never too late to sort things out or change direction. Determination, hard work and resilience go a long way. Never give up and I guarantee you will surprise yourself and everyone around you with what you can achieve.*

Rebecca Campbell  
Left Newlands 2012

Works at Morrisons  
Manufacturing

FdSc in food science

Bsc Hons in food  
marketing  
management

## BEX'S TIPS FOR YOU

Don't worry if things don't always go to plan or you change your mind about what you want to do in life. It is never too late to sort things out or change direction.

Determination, hard work and resilience go a long way.

Never give up and I guarantee you will surprise yourself and everyone around you with what you can achieve.



# ANALYST

*I initially made the transition from University to the working world by undertaking a Remote Sensing internship at Aerospace and Engineering consultancy Telespazio.*

*Throughout this internship I was shown different aspects of the business from the technical side through to sales and HR. This gave me perspective on what route I would like to follow for my career.*

*At the end of the internship I was offered a full time role in the GeoInformation department where I developed my coding and general computer skills, to create viable products using satellite imagery that we could use to generate business and make a profit. One example of this is, we would take satellite imagery of Rainforest areas once a week and monitor whether there had been any illegal deforestation.*

*Around 18 months into this role, I decided to apply for my current job. I now work at Energy Consultancy Wood Mackenzie. I work as part of a large team, where I manage changes and updates to our interactive Oil and Gas Map: PetroView. This product maps where different companies' assets and interests are. This role is quite technical and involves a lot of computer work, based on the mapping software ArcGIS.*

*I did not study computer science or engineering at university so initially I found the technical and coding side of the role quite challenging, but my company is supportive and very encouraging of further education and training which has helped me develop my skills massively.*

Lucy Turner  
Left Newlands 2011

Works as GIS Support  
Analyst at Wood  
Mackenzie

A-Levels in  
Geography, Maths,  
Biology

Undergraduate: BSc  
Geography

Postgraduate: MSc  
Quaternary Science  
& Climate Change

## LUCY'S TIP FOR YOU:

I would highly recommend undertaking an internship if you find yourself in a position after university where you are not offered a full time role.



# MARKETING CAMPAIGNS MANAGER

*I was persuaded by Mrs Vaughan, to accept a place at university and defer for a year – best decision ever! I loved studying Politics and had the best three years of my life.*

*After leaving, I took an internship working in London which was a good spring-board for my first job working for an MP as a Constituency Case Worker.*

*I now work in Marketing and PR and I'm a fully qualified Associate of the Chartered Institute of Marketing.*

*My first job in IT was with Blackberry and I now work for a company which develops supply chain software. I travel a lot and have a great team of people.*

Harjyot Sihera  
Left Newlands 2007

BA Politics 2:1

University of  
Nottingham

Fun Fact: I worked in  
Boris Johnson's  
campaign office  
during his bid for  
Mayor of London

## HARJYOT'S TIPS FOR YOU

Research University courses really well – I found 'Politics' was completely different at each University.

Listen to advice at school – chances are, those giving it to you have seen hundreds of other girls go through the same thing – they know what they are talking about!

Stand up for yourself! – once you start work, value yourself and keep pushing for what you want from your career. Don't ever take rejection personally and never give up!





Laura Cooper  
Left Newlands 2013

BA Music

University of York

# TEACHER – IN THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

*I took a gap year after leaving Newlands in which I taught music in a women's prison for 9 months and then worked at Camp America for 3 months which was one of the best experiences of my life!*

*I'm graduating this July but have already secured a job in the Cayman Islands, teaching Performing Arts and also being a peripatetic piano/clarinet/flute teacher. I want to train as a Music Therapist in the future.*

## LAURA'S TIPS FOR YOU

When choosing a degree, think about something you're genuinely interested in.

Living in halls is an interesting experience! Don't be that person who doesn't do their wash up and you'll be fine! Getting involved with societies is a good way to make friends – at York you can join anything from Quidditch to Wine Tasting!

University is a big change. If you feel as though your mental health is suffering at any time, don't keep it to yourself. Talk to friends, a counsellor or tutor.



# VIDEOGRAPHER

*In the summer of 2016, I thought I had my life planned out, intending to study Film Production at Southampton Solent University. However, a matter of days before results day I cancelled my application, as I realised this wasn't the right route for me*

*I spent 2 years working as a bra fitter at Daniels in Windsor, trying to work out what my next step was going to be. I even reapplied to university as I thought it may be my only option. I would spend my evenings job hunting, until I found a videography apprenticeship at Costain. I loved the idea I would be able to study for my Junior Content Producer qualification, whilst also getting real life experience on the job, I was slightly terrified to start working an 'adult job', however this jump was just what I needed.*

*Fast forward to now, I have been in my role at Costain for over two years and having completed my final assessments in February 2021, I am no longer an apprentice – I am a videographer, with a real passion for video editing as an art.*

Andrea Simpson  
Left Newlands  
2016

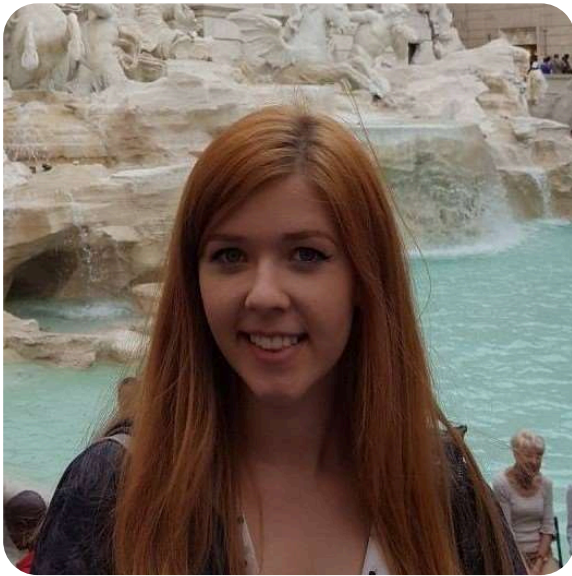
—————  
A Levels  
Maths  
Media Studies  
Photography  
—————

Videography  
Apprenticeship

## ANDREA'S TIPS FOR YOU

Just because the route you take into your career isn't the 'normal' one, don't be afraid – life has a strange way of doing things, and this is probably the way it was meant to be for you.

- If you don't ask, you don't get – networking is your best friend, ask people about job opportunities at their companies, connect with people on LinkedIn – only you can make yourself progress to where you want to be



# ISSUE CLERK – MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

*Through networking, I heard of an internship opportunity with Vodafone, applied – and got it!*

*Afterwards I moved to London and found a job at the Ministry of Justice which I enjoy. The most interesting part is knowing that each day will be different from the last as no two cases are the same!*

*My computer skills definitely helped me get the job as it's a vital part of my work.*

Leanne Osborne  
Left Newlands 2013

Studied  
Drama/Theatre Arts  
at Royal Holloway

I live in London

I assist the public  
with the beginning  
stages of a court  
case

## LEANNE'S TIPS FOR YOU

You may not realise how many Civil Service jobs there are across the country. It's a lot more than just data inputting and sitting at a desk, so it's worth having a look!

Definitely work on your IT skills, particularly Word and Excel. Without these I would not have been hired. They are in demand everywhere.



Louise Porat  
Left Newlands 2011

Business Studies,  
Psychology and  
French A Levels

Executive PA Course,  
Distinction

# SALES CO-ORDINATOR

*I found a one-year 'Executive PA' course at Oxford Media and Business School and this was such a good course – it gave me all the skills to be able to go straight into my first job (and also due to the skills I had learnt in this course, I got a few job offers really quickly).*

*My first job was at a big computer software company, where I joined as support to the admin team, then progressed to Contracts Administrator for Europe – drawing up sales contracts and working with the legal and finance departments to see the whole contract process through.*

*I went travelling for 6 months and am now working for a toy company, supporting the sales team with managing the accounts and keeping the sales people organized.*

## LOUISE'S TIPS FOR YOU

Prepare for interviews by finding out everything you can about the company – at every interview I have been asked why I want to work for that company. Make sure you research!

You can never be too smartly dressed for an interview – first impressions really do count.





# JUNIOR PROJECT MANAGER

*I kept my degree broad studying Business, but I quickly learnt that marketing was something I wanted to go into. In my second year I did a Marketing Internship at Experian which grew my confidence in the workplace and improved my skills. I was also able to determine if it was the type of job I enjoyed. After graduating, I began an Internship for a Digital Marketing Agency in London called Thin Martian. I was offered a position there after 6 months and I am really happy" in my job!*

Millie White  
Left Newlands 2013

BA Business Studies  
Nottingham Trent

I work at a Digital  
Interface Agency

We work on projects  
including web design  
and online user  
experience

I work with clients to  
make sure we meet  
their needs

## MILLIE'S TIPS FOR YOU

Make use of every opportunity,  
like Work Experience

Don't be afraid to give  
things a go – there are so  
many opportunities out  
there!



# PHD STUDENT

*I studied Biology, Geography and History at A Level. I left Newlands with AAB in my A Levels and went on to join Royal Holloway University where I got a First Class Honours Degree in Geography. I chose Royal Holloway because it felt right and I loved it when I looked around, not because of league tables – don't forget you will be the one spending the next years of your life at university so pick where YOU like and where YOU feel comfortable and could see yourself.*

Nina Willment  
Left Newlands 2013

—————  
I'm studying for a  
PhD in Cultural  
Geography  
—————

I have travelled the  
world from Spain to  
Thailand to Malawi

## NINA'S TIPS FOR YOU

Exams – try not to panic!  
Everyone has bad days and bad exams so even if something didn't go right, try not to get too upset. Dust yourself off and focus all your energy on smashing the next exam.

Planning revision time along with time to see family and friends is key.  
I get my diary out and start by noting all of my exam dates then breaking down the day and weeks before exams into time for different revision topics.



Shamsa Akhtar  
Left Newlands 2011

—————  
BA Accounting  
and Finance  
Oxford Brookes  
University

—————  
Studying towards  
ACCA to become a  
Chartered  
Accountant

# TRAINEE ACCOUNTANT

*When I left university, I started a role as a Finance Assistant at a healthcare firm and worked there for a year. I learnt all the basics of Finance and decided it was still something I wanted to work towards.*

*I started my current role at a recruitment agency specialising in the Pharmaceutical Industry as a Trainee Accountant in December 2016 and I am currently working towards becoming an ACCA qualified Chartered Accountant.*

*I love my job. Working in finance, the months come around in a similar routine and everyone in the team has their own monthly tasks.*

*In Year 10 I wanted to be a dentist, but doing a week's work experience showed me that was not right for me.*

## SHAMSA'S TIPS FOR YOU

If you are not sure what you want to do, contact local companies for work experience. During the summer between Year 11 and Year 12, I got myself work experience with an accounting firm and decided that's what I wanted to do.

If going to uni, choose a subject you genuinely enjoy. Good luck!



# BRAND, STRATEGY & MARKETING INTERN

*I always wanted to do a business related degree but was never certain whether I wanted the year in industry as I took a gap year travelling prior to university so I was conscious I would be behind everyone else getting on the career ladder.*

*I am extremely glad I chose to do my year in industry as it has helped me a considerable amount, gaining not just relevant experience, but confidence too which no doubt will help me after uni.*

*Employers give you lots of responsibility. I recently organized a Network Training Event and spoke to 100+ delegates, including German guests from the Global Head Office. I was the lead on this, managing everything from invites going out to cars being shipped over from Germany to organizing 14 hosts delivering the training.*

Sophie Norton  
Left Newlands 2012

3rd Year Marketing  
Student at Bristol  
UWE

Currently on a year's  
placement with  
Porsche Cars Great  
Britain

## SOPHIE'S TIPS FOR YOU

Go to Uni! It is so much fun and you gain so much independence and learn important life skills. It's the best decision I've ever made.

Do an industrial placement if you can.

At Assessment Centres, be yourself. Employers make decisions based on whether you will fit in with the team and whether you will work hard.





# SENIOR MARKETING EXECUTIVE

*Finding the right full-time job after University was not easy, but I had to start somewhere – so I worked for an engineering company as an Accounts Administrator, whilst working part-time at Lloyds TSB.*

*I wanted to achieve some personal goals so I spent 3 months in Central America, volunteering for a sustainable development charity called Raleigh International.*

*I became a Digital Marketing Executive for a Maidenhead agency. I now work under two managing partners as a Senior Marketing Executive which involves event management, campaign building, content creation, website management and social media strategy. It allows me to be creative, try new ideas and do what I do best – writing!*

Tina Chohan  
Left Newlands 2008

BA English Language  
and Literature with  
Creative Writing  
Brunel University

A Levels in  
Media Studies  
English Lang/Lit  
Accountancy

## TINA'S TIPS FOR YOU

The first and most important advice is ALWAYS believe in yourself and do what you love!

University is not for everyone. Explore your options and research what works best for you.

Whilst studying, get a part-time job because employers want to see experience as well as education.



# LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT

*The thing I enjoy most about my job is working in an alternative education provision! I was planning on going to university, I accepted my place at the University of Nottingham and planned to go. I then deferred for a year and discovered my love of working. It took me a few years to find out what I wanted to do – but now I know and I absolutely love it.*

*My plans for the future include becoming trained in Behavioural Psychology and using this to help our pupils overcome each of their hurdles one step at a time.*

*I have never stopped learning – I now have A Level English Literature as well as the A Levels I took at Newlands.*

Charley Brewer  
Left Newlands 2013

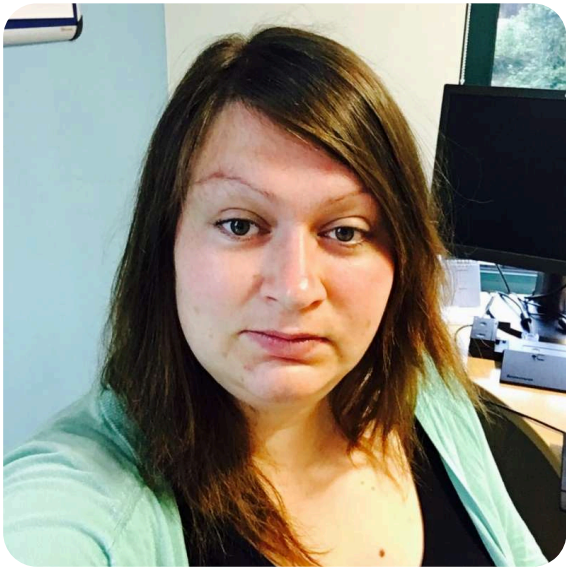
Works in Alternative  
Education Provision

A Levels in  
Geography, Theatre  
Studies and History

## CHARLEY'S TIPS FOR YOU

No matter how stressful A Levels seem, and applying to university and completing UCAS applications and everything else that comes at the same time, please remember that you don't actually have to rush. Take your time!

The decisions you make now can be changed and you will probably try load of different things before you discover what you love and that's OK! Carve your own path, don't be pressured in to following somebody else's.



## COMPLIANCE OFFICER CAPITA RESOURCING

*I studied Art and Design at Reading College but my first job was at a bank. I learned about the principles of business and soon became Service Quality Manager – managing customer service and promoting banking products.*

*I then worked for Thames Valley Police which was really interesting. I took 999 calls and learned a lot about UK law and legislation which made me interested in applying for the job I do now.*

*Here, I am very happy, I have a team of 8 staff and hope to progress further within the company.*

Emma Smedley  
Left Newlands 2003

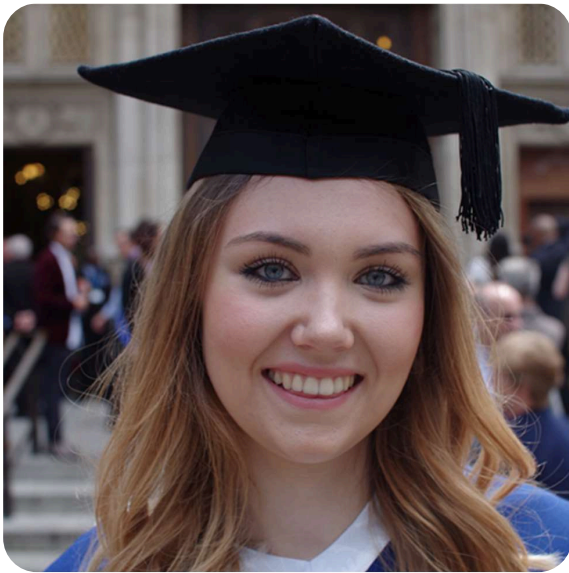
My job involves lots  
of legal work –  
making sure we  
comply with the law

Capita is a leading  
UK resourcing  
company, helping  
other companies to  
recruit staff

### EMMA'S TIPS FOR YOU

If you are taking exams, do the best you can do but don't consume yourself with worry about what might happen if you don't get the results you want. Being a good all-rounder who is adaptable, is given a lot of credit in business

Choose a path that works for you personally, then give it all you've got!



# PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHER

*After Sixth Form I went on to study at St Mary's University in Twickenham, to do their Primary Education with QTS. St Mary's gave me the opportunity to study in New York for 4 months and I also worked in an elementary school out there.*

*I graduated last year and secured my first teaching post in a village school where I am the current Year 1 and 2 teacher and I absolutely love it!*

*The best thing about teaching my class is the things they say. At five they haven't quite created a natural filter of things not to say out loud! One child cried because I dyed my hair brown and he said that I didn't look pretty anymore!*

Faye Gregory  
Left Newlands 2013

Teaching Years 1-2  
at Waltham St  
Lawrence Primary  
School

Studied Politics,  
Psychology and  
English Literature at  
A Level

## FAYE'S TIPS FOR YOU

Positive self-talk is always an excellent idea! Believe you can do well and you will.

Hold on to what you want even if it gets hard.

Take subjects you love, not what you think a university will want.