



## David Sill - Ferndown Upper School Leaver - 2016

After leaving FUS Sixth Form in 2016, I dived straight into a degree-level Engineering Apprenticeship at Curtiss-Wright in their Defence Solutions division. I achieved a BEng Engineering Degree whilst working full time designing and testing flight-critical avionics equipment such as Multi-Purpose Flight Recorders (MPFR's) and Air Data Computers (ADC's) for military and commercial aircraft.

Whilst working full-time and studying for my Engineering degree, I also set up my own car tuning business called Momentum Tuning Ltd when I was just 19 years old. This business now has over 1,000 customers ranging from large commercial contracts to local celebrities and has modified a combined total of nearly £20M worth of vehicle value. In 2020 I set up a second business in the property rental industry in which I take on 6-8 bedroom Houses of Multiple Occupancy (HMO's) under a 3-5 year Company Let Agreement and rent the rooms out individually under Assured Short-Term Tenancy (AST) agreements. The Momentum brand has grown to such an extent that I recently set up Momentum Modified Ltd and Momentum Specialist Cars Ltd too. I am now 24 years old and own 4 limited companies, three of which are in the automotive industry and one in the property rental/refurbishment industry.

During my time at Ferndown Upper School I was heavily involved in most of the sports teams including football, rugby and athletics which allowed me to network with new people outside of my usual friendship group. I still play football for a local team and many of the guys I play with are people I met at FUS. I genuinely think that playing sports is invaluable in building long-term connections and developing this competitive mindset from a young age has assisted me in various aspects of life and business.

Whilst at Ferndown Sixth Form, one of the best decisions I made was choosing Business Studies as part of my four A-Level selections. I still use a LOT of the knowledge I learned from this in running my four businesses and wouldn't have been able to reach where I am today without this subject and teacher.

If I could give current Ferndown students some advice it would be this - You can do anything but you can't do everything. Find something that you're genuinely interested in and focus on it. When I left school, I went into engineering purely because I thought it would be well paid. However, my interest was always cars, property and business and since starting my vehicle tuning companies I've found that if you're doing what you enjoy, the money will follow anyway.