



Lucy Giles - Ferndown Upper School Leaver - 2016

When I left Ferndown Upper School in 2016, I went straight to University. I completed my undergraduate degree in English Literature at The University of Winchester and then went on to further my studies by completing a Masters also in English Literature. During my time at Winchester, I took on a part-time job as a Student Ambassador and was able to help other students to make the transition between school leaver and student. This was a great experience and allowed me to explore the different career routes that I could go onto have after my Degree.

When it was coming to the end of my undergraduate degree, I remember feeling unsure as to what to do next and not knowing what career path I really wanted to take. By taking on a Master's Degree I was able to further my studies into English Literature and explore topics that I was really passionate about.

During my time at Ferndown Upper School from 2011-2016, I was able to take advantage of every opportunity that came my way. This was through getting involved in extra-curricular clubs such as Choir. By getting involved in extra-curricular clubs, I was able to go on and have amazing life experiences such as being able to perform in a sold-out show at The Royal Albert Hall with other local school choirs.

After loving my time at Ferndown Upper School so much, in 2020, the opportunity presented itself to return as a member of staff. I took on the position of a Teaching Assistant and have since progressed to becoming the Careers Leader and Careers Adviser at the school. By doing this role, I've been able to combine my love for Ferndown Upper School and everything I learned in my role as a Student Ambassador into one to be able to educate students of today about the future opportunities that exist for them once they leave school.

The one thing I would say to Ferndown Upper School students who are unsure of what to do next at any stage in their career/education, is to take advantage of everything that's offered to you because you never know what doors it could open up to you.