



YOUR FUTURE

HAVANT SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

A young woman with long, dark, wavy hair is sitting at a desk in a classroom. She is looking off to the side with a thoughtful expression. The background is a blue bulletin board with various papers and notices pinned to it.

We're here to help guide and support you with your future choices whatever your destination



What our students say about our Careers Service:

"Thank you ever so much for your help in yesterday's meeting with me - it was of incredible use and I found it so helpful! I am now more confident with my options and my search into universities and courses, thank you once again!"

"Thank you so much for talking with me today, it made me feel a lot better and much more calm about sorting out next year!"

"I've just received offers from Anglia Ruskin and Winchester universities. Thank you for all of your help and support you gave me when preparing for the interviews. I couldn't have done it without you and I really appreciate it."

What universities and employers say about our students and events:

"Good: very open-minded and interested in a range of courses."
– London School of Economics and Political Science

"Lots of very good questions asked!"
– Oxford University (Mansfield College)

"All students were very polite and not afraid to ask questions."
– Imperial College London

"Students were great. They were really eager to come and chat and find out more even if they weren't too sure what they wanted to do."
– University of Nottingham

"The students were all very friendly and willing to listen to the information given – very willing to engage."
– What Uni

"Had lots of great questions and conversations with students."
– Butlins

"Very good preparation from students and very well put-together event."
– IBM

Aspire to be all you can be

At Havant Sixth Form College we aim to give our students the best possible start to their careers and to help them fulfil their dreams and ambitions.

At the same time we know that a large proportion of young people at the age of 15/16 don't know for sure what career they want to enter in the future. What's more, those who think they know what they want to do often find that their plans start to change as they get to know more about themselves and about the challenging and ever-changing world that surrounds them.

What we aim to provide in our Career Service is some inspirational guidance on your future options and opportunities to help you discover the enormous range of things you could go

on to do. If you are one of those people who, right now, don't know what they want to do in the future, don't worry – it's ok to be confused!

We encourage our students to think about these two things:

1. The importance of lifelong learning.
2. The benefits of taking control of your future career and 'managing' it as you go along.

These days a career is not necessarily something that follows a clear, direct or predictable pathway – in reality most people's careers take a series of twists and turns at various stages. Even if they do follow a direct pathway, few people know at the outset what their ultimate career destination will be.

One way of dealing with this is just to take one step at a time. If you choose courses at college that you feel you will enjoy and succeed in, and that will give you the skills to open a wide range of doors in the future, then you will maximise your chances of career and life fulfilment.

What most people also find is that they never stop learning and that, after completing their sixth form studies, their future career and life satisfaction benefits greatly from taking part in higher level study or training, or both. In most cases this continues to happen at intervals, or even continuously, as their life and career progresses. If you are doing something you enjoy and can succeed in, then it follows that you are much more likely to

also gain satisfaction from your own lifelong learning.

A number of our students keep in touch with us during their careers and we find many of their stories inspirational, which we will share in this booklet. They demonstrate how good career management and a willingness to keep learning, and embrace the opportunities that come their way can be the key to success and happiness.

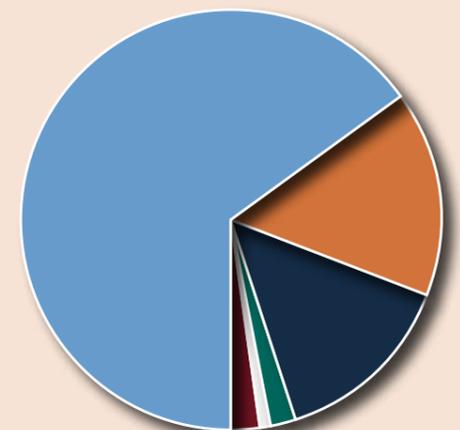
Our Careers Service has built up a national reputation over many years for the quality of its advice and guidance and, with our wealth of knowledge and links with universities, employers and many other agencies, we make it a priority to help our students make the right choices.

Level 3 student destinations in 2014

Results collated approximately six months after students completed their studies.

Key

- Full Time Higher Education
- Gap Year
- Employment
- Further Education
- Unemployed
- Unknown



Higher Education

Out of all the students who complete their studies at Havant each year (more than 500 annually) 84% of students were successful in their applications to university in 2014.

However, they don't all go straight away. About one in five will take a gap year first and some of these actually take two or three years out – or even more. More information on this can be found on pages 10 and 11. A small number also go to university abroad and we expect this number to increase in the future.

We have very close links with many UK universities. Our annual Higher Education & Employability Fair in September is widely known as one of the best college events in the country. Every year approximately 80 universities attend (including most of the prestigious Russell Group universities) and are always highly complimentary about the quality of our students and how well-supported they are.

Our students also attend the annual Hampshire & Isle of Wight Higher Education Convention, held at

Outstanding record of progression to university. Out of those students who apply to university in 2015:

- 25% (approximately) of our students progress to Russell Group universities
- 25% (approximately) go on to study at a Sutton Trust university
- 1 in 5 of our students who apply to Oxbridge universities are offered a place

the University of Portsmouth in March, at which most UK universities have stands.

In addition we hold a variety of other events annually that enable universities to visit Havant Sixth Form College, including both our Parents Higher Education Evening and our Academic Enrichment Programme where students have the chance to listen to speakers on a range of topics related to Higher Education. Students also visit universities and many find themselves attending several university open days during their time with us.

As you might expect, a significant proportion of our students go to universities that are either fairly local or within 50 miles of home. Others go all over the UK, and in some cases overseas, and during the last 10 years our students have actually progressed to degree or equivalent courses at more than 170 different universities and colleges. In fact, to the best of our knowledge, there are only four universities in Britain that nobody has gone to during this period and they are in the north of Scotland or Northern Ireland.



Alex Forsyth

I studied at Havant Sixth Form College before going off to university to complete a post-graduate course in newspaper journalism.

I joined The News in Portsmouth as a trainee reporter, before becoming the paper's Political Editor.

After a few years of delving into local government I made the move into broadcast journalism, first joining BBC Radio Oxford as a Political Reporter, then the regional TV news programme South Today as Home Affairs Correspondent.

Two years ago I made the move to network news as a Political Correspondent based in Westminster, and since then I've covered the comings and goings of MPs and developments in Government policy for BBC News radio and TV bulletins as well as short spells on the Daily Politics programme. During the General Election campaign I spent six-weeks following UKIP around the country. Recently I moved to Brussels, and now split my time between the Belgian city and Westminster to cover the upcoming referendum on the UK's membership of the European Union.

Chris Williams

My A Levels were in Geography, Business Studies and IT. From there I went on to study a BSc in Human Geography at the University of Reading. The parts of the course which I found particularly interesting were those related to the urban environment, development and transport and as a result started a career as a Graduate Transport Planner with a multi-discipline engineering consultancy after my degree.

Since then I have been sponsored through the completion of an MSc in Transportation Planning and Engineering at University of Southampton and now act as Project Manager for the provision of highways and transport advice, supporting primarily private developers with gaining planning permission for a range of schemes. This includes residential (10-1000+ dwellings), schools, hospitals, leisure and mixed-use retail / commercial land uses.



Leavers Destinations 2015

Once our students have left us, we spend the following six months contacting them to find out what the next step in their journey is. This information is used as an aspirational guidance tool for future students. Here's a snapshot of our 2015 leavers destinations so far:

Students attending Russell Group Universities 2015



Natalie Gilmore

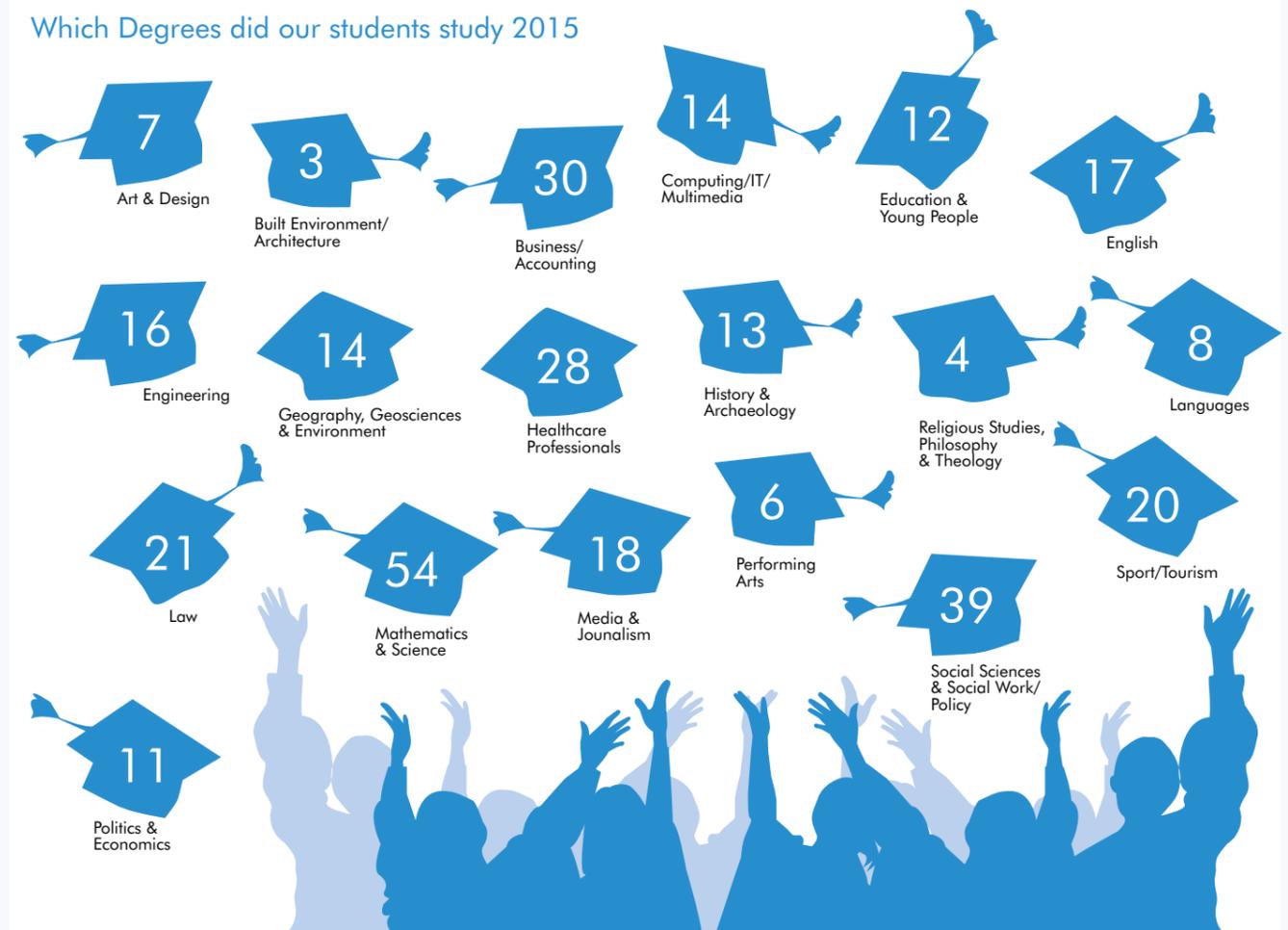
I studied A Levels in English Language, French and Media Studies, then went on to study Sports and Society at Sheffield Hallam University. I gained work experience at Meridian TV in the holidays and at Radio Sheffield while I was studying. I started out as a runner and worked my way up to Production Assistant, Production Co-ordinator, Technical Services Co-ordinator and now Production Manager. I am currently Production Manager at Sunset + Vine for the BT Sport Europa League coverage. We are Host Broadcasters for any home matches for UK teams and my job is to plan the Outside Broadcasts (OB) in the UK and arrange any on-site facilities we need in Europe when the teams are



away. I book all staff, technical facilities and logistics, manage the budget and basically make sure the OB happens so the director can do his job. I am on-site on match days and liaise between UEFA, the club and BT Sport to make sure that the match goes out to the world with all UEFA's stipulations and that BT Sport get the coverage they want for their channel.



Which Degrees did our students study 2015



Employability

Employability skills are important for everyone, whatever their choice after college. Havant Sixth Form College has developed an employability strategy that is extremely relevant in today's financial climate. We work closely with employers to develop the skills that employers want and to offer work experience and volunteering opportunities. The skills our students develop below are supported by industry:

1. Verbal Communication
2. Teamwork
3. Commercial Awareness
4. Analysing & Investigating
5. Initiative/Self motivation
6. Resilience
7. Written Communication
8. Organisational Skills
9. Flexibility
10. Time Management

During their time at the College, students are able to track the development of their Employability skills by recording their progress on an Employability Skills Award which will prove invaluable when applying for university or employment.

Christopher Howard, one of our former students currently working for Bank of America Merrill Lynch as an Operations Analyst – Global Communities, has this to say about his employers and the skills they are looking for:

"The main attributes employers look for are a strong work ethic and intellectual curiosity. I had previously done some work experience in a data management firm, worked in a suit shop and volunteered in a charity shop over summer. Though these are quite generic and low-skilled jobs I did during college, they showed that I used free time to build on my professional capabilities (hence strong work ethic). I was always told that A Levels and a degree are not what define your life as a whole, and this has never hit home more than now."

Employment Opportunities

Our Careers Service has always made it a priority to provide a programme of support for those students who choose to enter employment directly after completing their college studies.

Using our contacts and extensive knowledge of the labour market, we do everything possible to help them source vacancies and make effective job applications.

A Level training programmes and Higher Apprenticeships are being offered and give a very viable and financially rewarding alternative to higher education. Though competitive,

our students are managing to procure some excellent destinations.

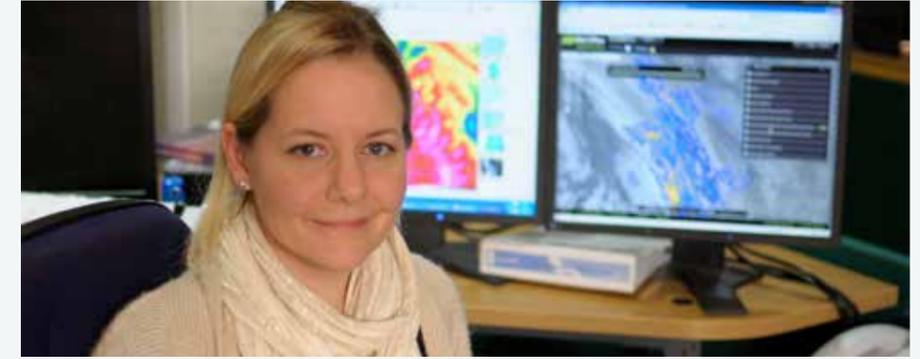
Apprenticeships have included: Higher Apprenticeship in Accounting with Smith & Williamson Apprenticeships at Taylor Made Computer Solutions, Rolls-Royce Motor Cars at Goodwood, Geodime Surveyancing and Barristers Clerk at Pallant Chambers.

The following list shows the sectors entered by our A Level or BTEC Level 3 jobseekers over the past five years means carrying on in their existing part-time jobs while looking to broaden their horizons. But at the same time, many others have

gone into a whole range of jobs within a few weeks of leaving college.

Those that appear most frequently are:

- Retail Sales Advisers
- Administrators
- Customer Service Advisers
- Call Centre Agents
- Trainee Accountants
- Residential Care Assistants
- Retail Management Trainees
- Telesales Representatives
- Bank Cashiers/Customer Assistants
- Insurance Clerks



Laura Gilchrist

I'm a Deputy Chief Operational Meteorologist working for the Met Office's at their HQ in Exeter. Based in the Guidance Unit I'm part of the most senior forecasting team in the organisation, which holds overall accountability for the global meteorological story followed by all other Met Office meteorologists in the UK and around the world.

After graduating from the University of Reading with a BSc Meteorology

in 2002 I started working for the Met Office at the BBC Weather Centre in London, and then spent the following 13 years as a Broadcast Assistant then a Media Guidance Meteorologist.

In 2015 I successfully completed a rigorous application process for the Deputy Chief position, and joined the Guidance Unit as one of only a few female meteorologists to have ever done so.

Laura Wood

I studied A Levels in Psychology, Sociology and Biology and qualified as an Operating Department Practitioner (ODP) following studying for two years at the University of Portsmouth for a Higher Education Diploma in Operating Department Practice.

Since then I have worked in a number hospital settings and studied for my 'top up' BSc degree in Acute Clinical Healthcare.

I have worked across a wide range of specialties within the perioperative environment, including major head and neck, vascular, general, trauma and obstetrics. I attended the Open University (OU) and completed my Assessing Learners in Practice qualification, which enabled me to act as Student Mentor support.

I have worked in all disciplines and have undertaken a number of supporting clinical courses to enhance my clinical role, including instructor status with the Resuscitation Council.

In 2012, I became a Practice Educator within the operating theatre. This role includes the management and support of all students within the theatre environment, as well as the budget management for continuing professional development courses with external institutions and all essential skills trainer and management facilitator of basic life support training. As my role involves a great deal of teaching, I have been supported to undertake my Post Graduate Compulsory Education (PGCE) at the University of Portsmouth in September 2015 (masters level).

Gap Year

Every year up to 100 of our students decide to take a gap year after completing their studies.

Some of these students, during their second year at the College, will have applied for deferred entry at university and will take up their places the following year. However, many others use part of the gap year itself to make their university decisions and the Careers Service still fully supports them with their application. Some students actually take two or three years out, but we still provide the support if and when they decide to take the next step.

What our students get up to in their gap year is very diverse. Some spend

the entire time working to save money for university while others spend some of the year on a once-in-a-lifetime adventure. The majority actually do a combination of things and spend a multi-activity gap year, mixing paid employment with travel, volunteering or part-time study – and in some cases all of these things. The jobs they do are sometimes fairly routine but some of them also find jobs with considerable responsibility.

To help our students plan their gap years the College provides extensive information and materials, whilst also hosting a variety of gap year companies at our annual events.



Andrew MacGregor

After studying A Level French, Physics and Computing at Havant Sixth Form College, I studied International Business Management at Swansea University and Orebro University, Sweden. Once I completed my degree I took some time off to travel around the USA, before returning to Swansea University as a Student Recruitment Officer for a couple of years.

In 2011 I took the CELTA TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) certificate and have worked as a volunteer English

Teacher in a small village school in the Republic of Georgia, teaching English to children from 5-18 years. I had to learn their language as well as I lived with a Georgian family who did not speak English. Following this I then moved to South Korea and subsequently Colombia again teaching English to all children and also university students and adults. I enjoy learning about the culture in other countries and plan to continue travelling widely and discovering the real country rather than the impression gained through tourism.



The following is just a selection of gap year activities our students have undertaken in the past ten years:

- Working as an intern at a business in Spain and volunteering at a games reserve.
- Applying for RAF as Weapon Technician.
- Working as a model, during Fashion Week, in London, Paris & New York.
- Applying for Animal Conservation Science at University of Cumbria whilst volunteering for RSPB as a guide and hiking the length of the Pacific Crest Trail.
- Working at Lassiters Dressage Yard, Goodwood.
- Travelling in South East Asia.
- Travelling and working in Zimbabwe and Australia.
- Working full time as a Teaching Assistant at Treloar College, Alton.
- Working in accounts for Host Management Catering Co. and taking accredited Youth Work qualification.
- Working at Portsmouth Naval Dockyard in hospitality and applying to study Speech and Language Therapy at university.
- Travelling round Asia and Australia and in particular volunteering on an Elephant Conservation Project.
- Working with Portsmouth's young Poet Laureate to set up a poetry collective, performing poetry alongside local poets. Volunteering at Bookfest, Portsmouth's Literary Festival, helping students with reading difficulties and working as a reading helper in local infant school. Also being a member of the 'MyVoice' project, which involves organising events in local libraries to encourage young people to use them.
- Travelled round Europe and plans to go to India in February with an Educational Consultant Charity.
- Volunteering in Africa, attending INET conferences, continuing with the TA and working with the local branch of the Conservative party. Also hopes to finish Hobbes' Leviathan and continue learning Mandarin.
- Working full-time in Waitrose followed by going to Nepal for one month volunteering in a Health Care Centre and Kindergarten, then travelling round Europe.
- Completing an internship at Fat Face Head Office and finishing A Level Biology.

Gap Year jobs at a glance:

Art Gallery Intern in New York
 Assistant Wedding Planner
 Au Pair in Rome
 Audio Fitter at Halfords
 Bungee Centre Assistant in New Zealand
 Camp America
 Chalet Host in the French Alps
 Church Missionary in Uganda
 Client Services Adviser at a fitness centre
 Competing in the Miss Great Britain final
 Computer Games Developer
 Conservation Volunteer in Ecuador
 Customer Services Adviser
 Deloitte Scholar
 Editorial Assistant for Royal Yachting Association (RYA)
 Freelance Social Media Manager
 Health Centre Receptionist
 Hockey Coach in Durban, South Africa
 Home Care Worker
 Medical Support Worker in Kenya
 Mountain Board Instructor in West Sussex
 Music Promoter/Blogger
 Office Administrator in Jersey
 Optical Adviser

Orphanage and Hospital Volunteer in Ghana
 PA to Managing Director of a motor firm
 Phlebotomist
 Physiotherapy Outpatients Dept Receptionist
 Playgroup Assistant
 Recreation Assistant at a leisure centre
 Round-the-world tour
 Rugby Coach
 Sailing Instructor with Sunsail
 Sales Adviser and Model at a watersports shop
 Service Support Co-ordinator for Age UK
 Showjumper
 Ski Instructor in New Zealand
 Software Engineer on IBM Futures scheme
 Sporting Giants Programme (Rowing), Henley
 Support Worker for young person with autism
 Teaching English on Koh Tao Island, Thailand
 Teaching at a college in Darwin, Australia
 Telesales Clerk
 Training with the RYA GB National Squad
 Turtle Conservation Project in Nicaragua
 Volunteer at World Guiding Centre in India
 Ward Hostess at St James' Hospital
 YWAM (Youth with a Mission) placement

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– **London School of Economics and Political Science**

“Lots of very good questions asked!”

– **Oxford University (Mansfield College)**

“All students were very polite and not afraid to ask questions.”

– **Imperial College London**

“Students were great. They were really eager to come and chat and find out more even if they weren’t too sure what they wanted to do.”

– **University of Nottingham**

“The students were all very friendly and willing to listen to the information given – very willing to engage.” – **What Uni**

“Had lots of great questions and conversations with students.” – **Builins**

“Very good preparation from students and very well put-together event.” – **IBM**



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