

What Career are you in, and what sort of things does this entail?

Teaching - I am a secondary drama and music teacher in Cheshire east, I am about to take over as head of department.

What inspired you to go into your chosen career?

I was at Malbank when the school was awarded specialist performing arts college status. The opportunities Malbank gave me from that really sparked my love of the arts and the expert teaching from Mr Smith, Mr Williams, Miss Ross & Mr Cummings put me in an incredible position to take my passions further. It took me a little bit to realise what I really wanted to do after I'd finished my drama degree but quite quickly I started working as a cover supervisor on an agency and was placed in a number of schools (one of which being Malbank) as soon as I set foot in the classroom I knew that I really wanted to teach drama and music. I was really lucky to do my second placement at Malbank during my PGCE and I got to work with performing again. Malbank is very much a part of my journey to getting where I am, and I hope I will at some point be able to share my love of the arts with this school again.

What advice would you give to anyone interested in working in your career area?

Don't get distracted and put off if elements of your plan don't go how you expect them to. Keep your goal in mind and find other ways to do it. I thought I had to have do my PGCE straight after uni to be a teacher but there are a lot of ways to do the same thing - you have to find the right way for you, at the right time for you.

What do you know now, that you wish you'd known when you were leaving Malbank?

Not everything has to be decided in the last year of school and you can change your mind.

You haven't failed if something doesn't work for you, pick yourself up and find another way.

Just because you're not good at something doesn't mean you won't be really great at something else (sales, working in a call centre, working in shops are my examples of jobs I was terrible at)

If you would like to get in touch with Matt to find out more about careers like this, please contact Mr Batty in the Sixth Form Office, or via Teams