

Inspiring a younger generation into STEM and the Aviation Industry

Our goal: Inspiring young people to explore careers in STEM and aviation, to support and encourage their future career choices.

How can you help? By sharing your story

Name & job role:	Adam Davis – Aviation Security Expert Advisor (Training)
What did you enjoy doing when you were younger?	were younger? I enjoyed Lego and had huge Lego sets that used the whole living room space. (I still love Lego and it is great for mental health and relaxation!) I also liked trains. As a child I played keyboard and also tap danced.
What were your favourite subjects in school? Why?	I loved science as I enjoyed learning about the human body and am amazed by how perfect we are as humans to breath, walk, and run and live our lives. I also loved science experiments with chemicals and Bunsen burners.
What or who inspired you to study these?	I had a brilliant teacher in my first year at secondary school who brought science to life, was passionate and enthusiastic. He supported me and made everything fun and exciting.
Did you do work experience? Where and did it help in choosing your career path?	I spent a week at a theatre as I loved drama and acting. I worked backstage doing a different role each night from lighting, sound, curtain puller, and prop assistant. I learnt how hard the job is, but also how few jobs there are in the theatres. The competitiveness for jobs taught me to keep it as a hobby rather than a career.
What was your first job?	Café assistant at a miniature railway visitor attraction.
How did you arrive where you are in your career?	The first tv documentaries on life at Heathrow Airport got me interested in aviation and I loved the idea of the fast paced environment with people jetting off to exciting places. I went to college to study tourism management and then did a year as Cabin Crew. I loved it so much I stayed 14 years working my way up to an instructor where my acting skills came into play again pretending to be panicked passengers and disruptive passengers in role plays with new cabin crew! I realised how

	much I loved training and moved into airport security training before my current role with the CAA.
What do you love about your current job?	I get to help the aviation industry to give excellent training like my science teacher did when I was at school and help to create the next generation of role models. I also get to work with a great team of people and talk about secret security stuff and feel a tiny bit like James Bond at times!
What were the biggest challenges/barriers you had to overcome?	My shyness. I used to be so quiet and never stand up for myself. My career has taught me to overcome this and to stand my ground when needed. I now chair meetings and have to have challenging conversations. I don't enjoy this, but I can do it, and can do it well. You don't have to be the loudest person to still lead others.
Who have you looked up to and why?	My Dad. He struggled at school and did not get any qualifications due to his dyslexia. He still had a career as a builder and raised a family. He also was able to overcome his difficulties in later life and worked hard to learn to read and write at the age of 40. He showed that nothing is impossible if you put hard work in!
What is your ambition?	Part of me would still like to retrain as a teacher and teach in schools. Though I'd also like to be a train driver!
What is the best advice you were given?	Treat everyone as you would like to be treated.
What advice would you give a younger you?	Don't take things so personally - You cannot be liked by everyone and you won't get on with everyone. Just because someone doesn't agree with you doesn't mean they dislike you.

Any additional comments:



Thank you for sharing your journey.