

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:	Dave Emsley, Technical Standards Surveyor
What did you enjoy doing when you were younger?	Planes, fixing and making things.
What were your favourite subjects in school? Why?	Design Technology and History. I loved making things and the past fascinated me.
What or who inspired you to study these?	My Grandad was a DIY Pro and made all sorts
Did you do work experience? Where and did it help in choosing your career path?	Yes, at Virgin Atlantic Engineering, Gatwick Line Operation. It was fundamental in helping me choose my direction.
What was your first job?	Apprentice Aircraft Engineer at Virgin Atlantic.
How did you arrive where you are in your career?	Apprenticeship, Technician then 10 years as a Certifying Engineer. Working for the CAA had been an aspiration for a few years as a development opportunity.
What do you love about your current job?	I've only recently started, but I'm loving how supported I am and how my manager is focussed on supporting my development.
What were the biggest challenges/barriers you had to overcome?	For any challenge break it down into its component parts. Take 1 at a time and it will be manageable. No problem is insurmountable.
Who have you looked up to and why?	Robert Pooley MBE. An ex RAF engineer, pilot and entrepreneur. He is a great man and famous in the aviation and military communities

What is your ambition?	In a new role so I need to learn and bed in before looking for more senior roles in the authority in the future
What is the best advice you were given?	Show your interest in aviation and develop new skills by joining the RAF Air Cadets.
What advice would you give a younger you?	Don't stick in one role too long. Always look for the next opportunity to grow your skillset

Any additional comments:



Thank you for sharing your journey.