

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:	Emma McCreesh Inspecting Officer in Airworthiness
What did you enjoy doing when you were younger?	I loved to read, building things with Lego and riding my bicycle.
What were your favourite subjects in school? Why?	My favourite subjects were physics and maths, I liked these subjects because I enjoyed having to solve problems.
What or who inspired you to study these?	No one really inspired me to study these subjects, I chose them because I liked them and was good at them.
Did you do work experience? Where and did it help in choosing your career path?	I had a work experience at the Armagh Observatory and Planetarium. This helped me to grow my interest in space exploration and the technologies that enable it, influencing my decision to pursue a degree in Aerospace Engineering.
What was your first job?	My first job was working in Sainsbury's on the checkouts. After I completed my degree I started working as a Product Support Engineer in Bombardier Aerospace in Belfast.
How did you arrive where you are in your career?	I worked in industry before coming to the CAA, having been on the side of the industry that adheres to the rules I wanted to be part of the organisation that sets the rules and ensured safety for the public.
What do you love about your current job?	My role is varied and interesting, I review incidents that have happened in industry to identify trends to help ensure safety in aviation. I have also have the opportunity to work with people from different cultures and with types of experiences which and it is interesting to learn from them.
What were the biggest challenges/barriers you had to overcome?	When I was at school I was interested in studying engineering or astrophysics but my



	teachers didn't provide me with much guidance for the careers available for these subjects. I went to an all girls school and there weren't many pupils who had pursued these areas before me, so I had to research the opportunities myself. I now want to make young people aware of the options available to them in STEM.
Who have you looked up to and why?	I have looked up to my old manager John in Bombardier, he has been very good at providing my with guidance during my career even after I left. I hope to provide younger generations with similar guidance in the future.
What is your ambition?	I would like to progress within engineering and hope to become a Design and Certification Specialist. I would love to become involved in Space engineering activities in the future.
What is the best advice you were given?	Not sure if this is really advice but someone from my team in Bombardier would always tell me "everyday is a school day", meaning that you never stop learning and there is always something new to gain knowledge in.
What advice would you give a younger you?	Don't be afraid to try things and to believe in yourself.





Thank you for sharing your journey.

