



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

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| Name & job role: | Amy L Wood Cyber Security Certification Specialist |
| What did you enjoy doing when you were younger? | I loved sports and understanding how things work. |
| What were your favourite subjects in school? Why? | IT, Science and Business |
| What or who inspired you to study these? | People who were in careers I aspired to be in studied these subjects when they were at school. They were also the subjects I enjoyed the most, so it was a natural fit! |
| Did you do work experience? Where and did it help in choosing your career path? | I did 2 weeks work experience whilst I was in year 10. This was at a local Hydraulics Engineering company, with my Uncle. I learnt the importance of key skills such as teamwork and good communication as well as some of the physics behind hydraulic systems and their usages in the modern world. |
| What was your first job? | Whilst at high school, I volunteered at a local charity and was a Karate Coach. |
| How did you arrive where you are in your career? | By taking every opportunity that has been presented to me, working hard, and trying my absolute best. |
| What do you love about your current job? | I love that the work we do at the CAA has a real-life impact on everyone in the UK – we do our job to keep everyone safe. |



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| | <p>I also work with some incredibly interesting people from such diverse backgrounds, which makes working at the CAA a much richer experience.</p> |
| <p>What were the biggest challenges/barriers you had to overcome?</p> | <p>Being a woman in Computer Science, IT and Tech has thrown a few challenges my way however I feel there has been a genuine shift in the industry, within recent years. Women – and anyone, regardless of their gender identity – absolutely belong in the Tech industry, bringing diverse thinking and approaches, making our teams so much better!</p> |
| <p>Who have you looked up to and why?</p> | <p>One person I always admired, when I was a child, was Amy Johnson. She was a British aviator who was the first women to fly solo from London to Australia – how amazing?!</p> <p>I also really enjoy learning about Gene Krantz and his career history. Gene was an aerospace engineer, fighter pilot and, more recently, a NASA flight director. Gene is a leader I truly admire; he demonstrated this during his successful efforts, as part of the mission control team, to save the lives of the crew of Apollo 13.</p> |
| <p>What is your ambition?</p> | <p>I don't have an 'end goal' – and that's OK! I'm focused on doing things that I enjoy and learning as much as I can.</p> |
| <p>What is the best advice you were given?</p> | <p>"Investing in yourself is the single best thing you can do!"</p> <p>Learning, taking a break, trying new things – whatever it is, invest in YOU.</p> |
| <p>What advice would you give a younger you?</p> | <p>You – and only you – can decide what your future looks like, embrace it!</p> |

Any additional comments:



Photo?

Thank you for sharing your journey.