

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:	Eleanor Levitt, Design and Certification Specialist
What did you enjoy doing when you were younger?	Playing sports and watching an unhealthy amount of Cbeebies
What were your favourite subjects in school? Why?	I loved Maths and History
What or who inspired you to study these?	I had a great Maths teacher who is a nun-she was super strict but fair and got the best out of me. I loved History because I liked listening to the stories.
Did you do work experience? Where and did it help in choosing your career path?	I did my work experience at the Teenage Cancer Trust charity. I haven't gone into that field but ruling out careers you don't want is also part of work experience.
What was your first job?	Working as waitress at Twickenham Rugby Stadium on match days.
How did you arrive where you are in your career?	I started watching a TV programme called Aircrash Investigation at college just before I had to pick my degree subject. I thought the Aerospace Engineers on there were cool so decided to study Aerospace Engineering, despite not know what it really was. It was a gamble that paid off. I then accepted onto the graduate scheme at British Airways and became Cabin Design Engineer. After 8 years at BA, I progressed my career to a Design and Certification Specialist at the Civil Aviation Authority.



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What do you love about your current job?	I love aeroplanes so I am very happy that I've forged a career in aviation that uses my natural skillset. I enjoy the responsibility of keeping people safe when they fly.
What were the biggest challenges/barriers you had to overcome?	I had to overcome my confidence issues. I would be so worried I would fail my degree and I ended up graduating top of my class -which came as a major surprise to me. It taught me to believe in myself more!
Who have you looked up to and why?	Amy Johnson really inspires me. She was the first woman to fly solo from London to Australia 1930 when she was only 27. She also trained as an engineer and was super stylish. Her biography is worth a read and if you have time, her aircraft is on display in the London Science Museum.
What is your ambition?	I would love to be considered an expert in my field. I would like to help shape the future aviation landscape.
What is the best advice you were given?	The career ladder is a myth. It twists and turns and can take you to unexpected places. It's all part of the fun!
What advice would you give a younger you?	Don't get so stressed during exams. Getting a C in a GCSEs didn't ruin your life like you thought it would.

Any additional comments:



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Thank you for sharing your journey.