

THIS WEEK'S STAFF MEMBER CAREER HISTORY (02-08 Nov. 2020)

FOCUS ON: MRS FROST

What job did you want to do when you were in primary school? **Dancer**

Dancers use movement to perform for live audiences or in recorded performances.

Dancing is very competitive and you'll need to develop your skills by getting as much practical experience of dancing as possible. You could do this through:

- amateur dance clubs
- college and university dance societies
- student dance festivals and competitions

This can also help to put you in touch with people in the dance profession, who could be useful contacts when looking for work.

You can get into this job through:

- a university course
- a college course
- applying directly
- specialist courses run by private training organisations

To get on to a degree course you will need A Levels or equivalent and to pass an audition

There is a variety of qualifications available at college, eg. Level 2 Technical Certificate in Performing Arts, Level 3 Extended Diploma in Performing Arts – Dance

You'll spend time:

- rehearsing
- preparing for and going to auditions
- going to dance classes
- promoting yourself and finding work

Your working environment may be physically demanding and you may spend nights away from home.

You will not necessarily need any formal qualifications, but you'll need:

- the ability to accept criticism and work well under pressure
- knowledge of the fine arts
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- persistence and determination
- ambition and a desire to succeed
- the ability to use your initiative
- physical skills like movement, coordination, dexterity and grace
- physical fitness and endurance
- to be able to carry out basic tasks on a computer or hand-held device

What job did you have in mind when you took your options? **I didn't have an idea of what I wanted to do, so I chose lessons that I enjoyed.**

How do I know what to choose?

- 1) If you know what you want to do when you leave school, find out if there are any subjects that would help you reach your desired destination.

- 2) What subjects do you have the best predicted grades in? These are the ones where you are likely to have the most success.
- 3) What do you enjoy? You are more likely to work hard in the subjects that you like doing the most.

What else should I consider?

- 1) Do not make choices based on what your friends are doing. They probably have different strengths and weaknesses to you. They may not be aiming for the same target as you and may enjoy different things to you.
- 2) Don't make choices based on assumptions about which teachers you will have. These things can change.
- 3) Ask for advice from teachers, parents other people that know you well.

Current job: **Pastoral Support Officer**

Pastoral Support is a service that gives help and support to students as well as providing information, advice and guidance. PSOs work in close partnership with teachers, parents/cares and other specialist agencies. The pastoral care of students relates to those aspects of the student's experience which are not directly related to problems occurring in the academic or practice areas of study. They relate more particularly to the students social and emotional wellbeing. The average **Pastoral Assistant** salary in United Kingdom is **£19,588** per year or **£10.04** per hour. Entry level positions start at **£12,953** per year while most experienced workers make up to **£33,299** per year.

You will need:

- Good standard of education to include GCSE Maths and English
- Experience of working with young people or within schools and working with students and parents
- Good computer skills
- To be self-motivated and able to prioritise work and meet deadlines
- Good interpersonal skills in order to deal with a variety of sensitive issues and influence challenging situations
- The ability to diffuse confrontational situations and calmness under pressure
- To be able to work as part of a team
- The ability to engage and proactively deal with students and their issues
- Willingness to deliver group work with students
- To be involved in pastoral activities
- The ability to manage student interviews and investigations to good effect

Previous jobs: **Chip Shop worker / Beauty Therapist**