

## THIS WEEK'S STAFF MEMBER CAREER HISTORY (25<sup>TH</sup> – 31<sup>ST</sup> JAN 2021)

### FOCUS ON: [MISS STEVENS](#)

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

Of course, Mermaid is not a job! However, in describing the Developmentalism theory of Careers Theory, Tristram Hooley explains how, before the age of 11, children are in the life stage he names "fantasy". This is when it seems that anything is possible and people can be anything they choose. So, ideas of being a mermaid or a cowboy, an alien or a dragon do not seem unrealistic. This life stage is followed, between the ages of 11 and 17, with the "tentative" phase. This is when youngsters explore what is possible and consider real jobs and how these are a means of supporting living. Post-17, people are then in the "reality" phase. This is when they realise that their aspirations may be affected by factors such as geography, personal attributes or economics, for example, and make life choices that take these external factors into consideration.

What job did you have in mind when you took your options? **Journalist**

A journalist is a person who collects, writes, photographs, processes, edits or comments on news or other topical information to the public. Those working in newspapers and magazines have the lowest average salaries. According to the National Council for the Training of Journalists (NCTJ), the average income for a newspaper journalist is **£27,500**. When you're starting out as a trainee reporter, your salary could be as low as **£12,000 to £15,000**, depending on whether you're working for a local, regional or national paper. Although there's wide variation between regional and national newspapers, salaries for journalists with up to five years' experience generally rise to around **£25,000**, while those with a decade's experience or more can expect around **£35,000 to £40,000**.

Qualifications required:

Most people starting journalism careers are graduates. You could take an undergraduate degree in journalism, or take an undergraduate degree in a different subject followed by a postgraduate journalism qualification. But there are a few apprenticeships available too. An apprenticeship as a junior journalist is aimed at those who want to develop a career in journalism by combining off-the-job learning with on-the-job training. Any qualification you follow should be accredited by the National Council for the Training of Journalists (NCTJ).

Current job: **Faculty Director for English**

A teacher is a person who helps students to acquire knowledge, competence or virtue, especially a person who teaches in a school. As a newly qualified teacher, you'll begin on a salary of at least **£24,373**.

A teacher who is Faculty Director in a department is responsible for the professional leadership and management of that department. With these additional responsibilities comes additional pay.

Qualifications required:

- At least a GCSE grade 4 or equivalent in English and maths. If you want to teach primary or early years you will also need a GCSE grade 4 or equivalent in a science subject.
- A degree (or equivalent) of a 2:2 or above. If you want to teach at secondary or post-compulsory level, your degree should be in, or relevant to, the subject you want to teach.

**Previous jobs:** I have worked behind a bar, soldered circuit boards for DVD players, worked in a call centre, admin in an office, worked at JJB sports, Claire's Accessories, River Island.