

Please complete the questions below and then email back to Katie Isbell at katie@futurefirst.org.uk. Please also send across a suitable photograph (3.0MB or more) - for example your graduation photo, college photo, or one in your job role.

NAME

Paula Woolven

YEAR OF LEAVING

1988

CURRENT JOB/COURSE TITLE

Community Manager, CTLA & Theatre Director

FAVOURITE SUBJECT IN SCHOOL AND WHY? (Max 50 words)

My favourite subjects were Drama and English. Words fascinated me. I love the way they bring books alive and how you use and twist them in performance and public speaking to inform and entertain people.

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE SINCE LEAVING SEAHAVEN ACADEMY? (Max 60 words)

The largest organisations I have worked for are Sussex Police, East Sussex County Council and The Body Shop (alongside Founder Anita Roddick) which is where I discovered my passion for working in the charity & voluntary sector – sometimes described as the third sector.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR BIGGEST ACHIEVEMENT IN LIFE AND HOW DID YOUR EXPERIENCE AT SEAHAVEN ACADEMY HELP YOU TO ACHIEVE OTHER SUCCESSES? (Max 80 words)

My biggest achievement, outside the pride I have in my children, is starting my own Community Theatre Group for Young People (SMTJ). Founded in 2011 with 12 members, it now has nearly 100 young people attending each week, learning confidence, creativity and consideration for all through the Arts.

WHAT ONE PIECE OF ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO CURRENT STUDENTS? (Max 100 words)

I wish someone had told me that it is good to have a vision of what you'd like to do after school, especially if that path includes a lot of training, but that it is not the end of the world if you have no idea. The goalposts can always change. At 43, I'm still trying to decide what I'd like to be – but the journey I've travelled so far has been full of fun and different experiences.

WHAT'S YOUR NEXT BIG GOAL? (Max 30 words)

I have never had a goal. I leave myself open to all opportunities and chances to learn and grow in my career – don't be blinkered, look at the whole wide world. It's there for you as long as you are willing to go and find it.

Thanks so much for your support!