

Paul Ickeringill - Class of 1986

What were your favourite and least favourite subjects at SVC?

Art , Woodwork and Technical drawing

What is your current job

Managing recruitment Consultant for Search Hospitality London based in Oxford Street in the heart of London.



What pathway did you take to get where you are now

I went to Ely sixth form in 1986 -1987 to study O level Business Studies and GCSEs. Then Cambridge Regional College 1987 - 1989 to study BTEC National Diploma in Hotel Management. Spent a year as a hotel trainee manager with De Vere a large hotel group at the time covering all roles in the hotel from cleaner to duty manager and then 18 months as a Hotel Assistant Manager in a large conference hotel.

1991-1996 Worked as an Assistant Manager for Granada Television in Manchester at The Studios Tour Theme Park - catering for 5000 visitors a day and also worked at another site which could cater for 8000 visitors a day. During my time at Granada I was one of the youngest people to run a pub in the North of England. I also went to university part time and studied a first degree in Catering Management passing in 1995.

Over the next few years, I spent some time in the recruitment industry and the Care sector. During this time I studied as a Higher Apprentice and gained two NVQ level 4 qualifications in Recruitment Management and Recruitment Principles of Management.

I started my current role in 2020, where I run the London office for Search Hospitality and we started the London division of the brand a year ago and supply staff across London at the moment to large London hospitals to support in the pandemic.

What did you want to do/what were your plans when you left SVC

I wanted to working in hotel management from the age of 8 and run a large hotel. I'm still associated with the Hospitality industry but now have been specialised for a period of 15 years as a recruitment consultant offering recruitment solutions to the industry.

What advice would you give SVC students when they are deciding what to do when they leave SVC

My advice to students is always look for opportunities and grasp them if it be by gaining more qualifications and travel the UK or abroad for work and gain life experience.

What do you know now that you wish you knew when you were 15 or 16 yrs old

I have worked in an industry that has brought me into contact with all sectors of the general public, celebrities, government, homeless, sick and people of all nationalities as a waitress at Manchester united was told by the chairman of Manchester united and she told me this. Always treat people how you would like to be treated yourself regardless of who they are and how much they have. Another quote ; we all have a little voice within us listen to that and make your mind up but its also good to think out of the box and your comfort zone.

What is your one big memory of your time at SVC (good or bad, or both!)

My Home Economics lessons which where the start of my journey in the Catering industry.