

## Keyleigh Bysouth - Class of 2002

### What were your favourite and least favourite subjects at SVC?

My favourite lessons were always Drama and History. My least favourite subject were Maths and Science.

### What is your current job

I currently own my own recruitment agency; I have 8 staff and we are currently undergoing rapid expansion plans!

### What pathway did you take to get where you are now

When I left school, I wanted to go to University and I worked hard to secure my place at Hills Road with good grade. It wasn't long however before I realised that further education wasn't for me. I started a weekend job at a Homebase and soon realised that I enjoyed making money and having my own independence. I gave up college and found a part time job working in an estate agency. I worked for that company for over 10 years, during my time I undertook any training courses that were available to me. I was lucky enough to be able to undertake an NVQ in Management, Business Studies and Leadership during this time. I found that on the job learning was always my preferred method of learning. I am a very practical person as opposed to enjoying theory. After 10 years I really wanted to learn a new industry and found a trainee job in Recruitment – I knew my long-term aim was to have my own agency, however I knew it would take time so I set myself a goal that by the age of 30 I would achieve my dream – something I am super proud to say I achieved.

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

When I left SVC I had plans to become a lawyer, I had always been very interested in criminal law and I wanted to work in London for a top Law firm. As I chose to leave college unfortunately this would never come to fruition. I am proud to say I am now the owner of a reputable recruitment agency.

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

It is always good to have a goal, and to realise what you may want in life however don't be put off and disappointed if those plans change, you are never too far down the line to re-align your goals and start again. If you are unsure on what you want to do pick subjects that are diverse or if you are a hands-on person consider looking at an apprenticeship! Don't put yourself under too much pressure, life changes so very quickly when you leave school, very often leading you to paths you had not considered, most of all make sure you are HAPPY! If you are happy then you will be successful.

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

To think about what would make me happy rather than what will make me successful, success follows happiness and to pay more attention to what my elders advised me – I really didn't know best!

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

Sitting outside Mrs Bryden's office after being internally excluded for bad behaviour and smoking in school!

