

Laura Monaghan

Hairdressing Tutor

It was Laura Monaghan's work experience that inspired her to the career she now loves.

In Year 10 at Haygrove School, Bridgwater she went on a work placement at a local hair salon – and instantly fell in love with hairdressing.

An Apprenticeship at that salon was a natural progression when she left school. At that stage she had little idea that in the near future she would be studying for a Teaching Degree!

But an advertisement in a local paper was to signal a significant career change for Laura, now 24.

She said: "A training company called Hair Academy South West were advertising for trainee tutors. I had no teaching qualifications but I loved my hairdressing and just wanted to pass on the skills I had learned to others."

Laura got the job and hasn't looked back since. Following on from her Apprenticeship and an NVQ Level 4 in Hairdressing, she has since passed her Assessors Awards and teaching qualification.

And now she is to begin a two year course (studying part time at college) for a Certificate in Education Degree (PGCE).

Her job entails training school leavers on their Apprenticeships, developing their skills and encouraging them to achieve their goals.

Laura's tutor, Sarah Conibeer, who is Director of Education at Hair Academy South West, said: "Laura is a real inspiration – she has demonstrated what can be achieved through the Apprenticeship route."



I must admit I never even considered teaching when I left school but my Apprenticeship just opened the doors. I've had a great time, gaining experience in the real world and earning money at the same time.