



Thomas Telford School

Newsletter

Issue 13 **Special Souvenir Edition** Dec 1995

Ofsted

Ofsted Report 'Simply The Best'

In October the School was visited by a number of Inspectors from the Office For Standards in Education, who were assigned to inspect the School's operations and teaching standards. It proved to be a very enlightening time for the staff of the School. The Inspectorate are quoted as being impressed by 'the high level of Technological competence on the part of all pupils and the extensive use of Information Technology in lessons across the curriculum'. Headmaster, Mr Kevin Satchwell, said "This was an outstanding report. I believe that the figures on achievement, quality of learning and quality of teaching are amongst the highest ever recorded by Ofsted. Everyone involved with the School deserves credit."



Charter Mark Award Winners 1995

**'Quality in everything we do'
it's official!**

Thomas Telford School is proud to announce that it is now a member of a prestigious group of organisations who have qualified for a Charter Mark Award. This is a highly creditable Award, issued to organisations who are able to meet the exacting standards laid down by the Awarding Body. Each application is assessed against criteria relating to standards, consultation, courtesy and helpfulness, putting things right, value for money, user satisfaction etc. It is all thanks to the time, effort and commitment shown by the students, parents, prospective employers and staff of the School that we have achieved this Award. The Award clearly indicates the level of sustained effort in the pursuit of quality outcomes for the students of the School. We look forward to the continuing improvement and success of the School and would once again like to express our thanks to all who have made this achievement possible. Mr Satchwell said "the Charter Mark is well deserved and endorses our commitment to achieving our target of 'Quality in Everything we do!'"



Ofsted Ofsted Inspection 1995 .

Once again, daring to be different can prove to be a success as was reflected by Thomas Telford School's results in the recently undertaken Ofsted Inspection. City Technology Colleges, of which there are only fifteen in the country, were established in the late 1980's and early 1990's to raise educational standards in urban areas. The purpose built Thomas Telford School is now just over four years old and has broken many of the traditional educational conventions. The longer day, lap-top computers, extra Science, Mathematics, Technology and Business Studies, modern city office environment and 12 reports each year are just some of the many initiatives. The team of fourteen Inspectors found no fault with the methods of working and praised the leadership and ethos of the School.

Aspirations

'The aspirations of the founders of the School are being effectively realised.'

The School provides education of 'High Quality'.

Standards of Achievement

'In general, standards of achievement match or are superior to national norms in 96% of all lessons.' The national level is currently 82%.

Environment

'The School sustains an environment and an ethos supportive of high standards in learning and behaviour.'

'The premises, facilities and learning resources are of such a high quality that they offer unusually rich curricular and social opportunities.'

Display

The display of Student work around the School was described as 'superb'.

Picture This!



Year 11 Student Jessica Bradburn undertakes a piece of work in Art & Design



A Story of Great Success ...

Standards of Teaching

'these match the national norms or are superior in 98% of all lessons, with 77% being very good or good.' The national average is 82% and 42.5% respectively.

'Teachers have a good command of their subject.'

'Lessons have a clear purpose, pupils understand how the work in hand is intended to fit into the whole module.'

Quality of Learning

'Positive commitment, a good pace of learning and high output are characteristic features of work in the core subjects.'

'The quality of learning was sound or better in 98% of all lessons, with 76% being very good or good.'

Students are said to be 'well motivated and apply themselves diligently to their work'.

Homework

'The homework system made a major contribution to high academic standards.'

Science

'Standards of achievement in relation to age are always at and are often well above national norms.'

'Learning skills are sound in all science lessons and are often good and sometimes outstanding.'

'Lessons are well planned and organised; objectives are made clear; a variety of techniques are used.'

Business Studies

'The quality of teaching is sound or good in a majority of lessons at all stages.'

'Care is taken to respond to individual needs.'

Technology

'Students are well motivated and demonstrate effective understanding and application of the process of designing and making.'

'The quality of learning is good. Pupils of all abilities work with interest and concentration.'

Hard at work



Key Stage 4 students at work in a Learning Base



Mathematics

'All pupils possess good basic numeracy skills.'

'The quality of teaching is sound or better in all lessons with the majority being good or very good across all key stages.'

'The planning of lessons is exemplary.'

Focus on Technology

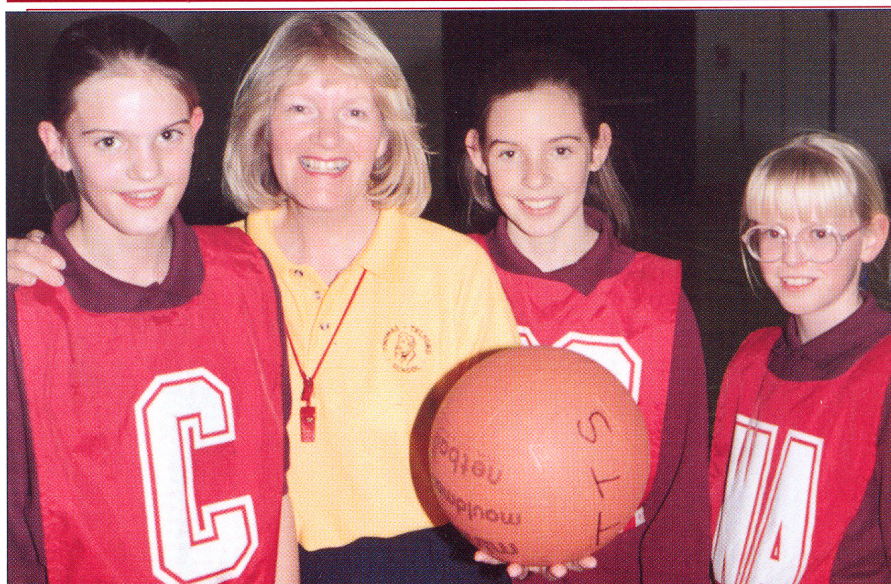
'The School's technological focus is a powerful feature of its life. The high level of technological competence of pupils at KS3 and KS4 and the extensive use of Information Technology (IT) in lessons across the curriculum demonstrate the School's success in promoting a new way of teaching and learning.'

At Thomas Telford School technology is not so much an instrument of learning as a way of life.'

Equal Opportunities

'girls and boys work with equal confidence and there is no evidence that any group or gender is disadvantaged.'

School nets top coach



Further evidence of our commitment to 'parental involvement' Netball coach Mrs Wilson one of our parents working with eager Year 7 students Kelly King, Melissa Massey and Jenny Wilson

Parental Support

The parents gave confidential returns to the Inspectors; these gave overwhelming support to the School stance on values, behaviour, standards of work, homework etc. When asked to give their response to the questions contained within the returns to Inspectors parents responded in the following manner:-

'Are you happy with the values and attitudes that the School teaches?'
99.3% said yes.

'Does the School set good standards of behaviour?'
99.8% of parents agreed.

'Does the School work well to ensure attendance?'
100% agreed.

Assessment and Reporting

'the assessment and reporting system made a highly positive contribution to the students' standard of achievement.'

Inspection 1995

Leadership & Management

'The School is very effectively led and efficiently managed. The Head's clarity of purpose and his relentless determination in pursuit of high quality in all aspects of the School's work are potent factors in securing and maintaining its success. He is ably supported by the Senior Management Team (SMT).'

The whole staff of the School, administrators, office staff, technicians, assistants and consultants, kitchen and caretaking staff as well as teachers are committed to enabling pupils to experience and achieve high standards.'



Headmaster Mr Kevin Satchwell holds a firm commitment to the students taking priority in all areas of School life. This is also reflected by his team of staff, in both teaching and supporting roles.

Pupils' Welfare and Guidance

'The pupils are properly supported in School and given a sense of pride and purpose.'

'The tutors, together with a well structured personal and social education programme integrated across the curriculum, ensure that all students are given suitable guidance and support.'

Links with Industry and Work Placement

'The School employs its own industrial consultants and very good links are in place with industry and commerce.'

'Great care is taken in finding suitable work placements for all students.'

'Corporate sponsors have funded awards.'

The School is very pleased to have such well established links with local industry thus offering enhanced opportunities to its students.

Resources for Learning

'The School has an exceptional range of resources available which enhance the teaching and learning.'

'The students use information technology as naturally as a pen.'

The benefits of such facilities are self evident.





Charter Mark Awards 1995

How we made our mark

The Government's Charter Mark Award Scheme is a way of acknowledging the provision of a high quality service to the public and in the case of Thomas Telford School students, parents and prospective employers.

Many sections of County and District Councils have applied for the Award. Last year Thomas Telford School won a "commendation of the Duchy of Lancaster" for nearly achieving the Award.

This year, we have gone one better and are one of only ten schools in the country to win the full Award. May we extend our congratulations to you all, as every member of the organisation has played their part. The actual crystal Award will be displayed in the School from early December following the national presentation at Westminster on December 4.

Everyone was a little nervous on Thursday 12 October when Harry Nicol came from the Cabinet Office to meet with parents, students and industrialists to ascertain if Thomas Telford School was worthy of achieving Charter Mark status.

A meeting was held with 23 parents for about an hour where they were 'cross examined' about Thomas Telford School. Then came the turn of the students, providing them with the opportunity to tell all about their school. Lunch was held with some members of the Advisory Council and other members of industry who support the School.

Finally Mr Satchwell spent about an hour with Mr Nicol who sought much detailed information about the School. Everyone should now feel a great sense of achievement and pride, especially those who supported us on the very important day that the Assessor visited us from the Cabinet Office.

Quality Rewarded



Mr Douch receives the Award from the Prime Minister

Special thanks to...

Our special thanks go to the following parents, students, employers and nominators for helping us achieve the Charter Mark:

Parents:

| | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| Mrs Davis | Mr Bennett |
| Mr Gribble | Mr Boucher |
| Mrs Leeming | Mrs Kerrigan |
| Mrs Driver | Mrs Bates |
| Mrs Richardson | Mrs Oakley |
| Mrs Bowater | Mrs Coates |
| Mrs Vaughan | Mrs Bowles |
| Mrs Richards | Mr Bowles |
| Mrs Cronshaw | Mrs Astill |
| Mrs Burke | |
| Mrs Baker | Nominators: |
| Mrs Wilson | Rev. Swinnerton |
| Mr Green | Mr Barton |

Employers:

| | |
|-------------|---------------|
| Mr Herrmann | Ms S Venables |
|-------------|---------------|

Students:

| | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Mark Baker | Paul Crompton |
| Katie Broughton | Matthew Foyle |
| Lloyd Aldridge | |
| Catherine Davis | |
| Andrew Martin | |
| Sarah Bradley | |
| Victoria Wilde | |
| Richard Weaver | |
| Donna Wilkinson | |
| Simon Jones | |
| Mundeep Naghra | |
| Natalie Care-Talbot | |





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Standards

'The high standards achieved at the School were one of the strengths of the application.'

'The School has a desire for excellence in key areas of performance.'

'outside the academic areas, these standards extend to punctuality, absence and behaviour.'

User Satisfaction

ultimately 'user satisfaction...will be promoted by the provision of excellent education.'

Measurable Improvements in Quality of Service

'Measurable improvements include linking of the School Development Plan to the School Training Budget to guarantee effective use of spending'

Independent Learning

A further provision is 'the Independent Learning Centre ... allows expansion of the Sixth Form to over 300 by 1996.'

Courtesy and Helpfulness

'The clear attempt to provide easy-to-use services for students, parents and other visitors' highlights this provision.

Also stated was the fact that 'The School's reception area is manned for long hours and this too is indicative of a very real concern for the convenience of the School's range of customers.'

Information and Openness

'The induction material to ease the move into the life of the School, the termly newsletter, frequent progress reports, Governors reports, parent interviews, all indicate the wish to communicate effectively.'

The School provides a good range of information for parents. This proves to be an invaluable asset to both parties.

Early Learning provision



The School nursery was singled out for praise in the School's effort to improve its service to the local community





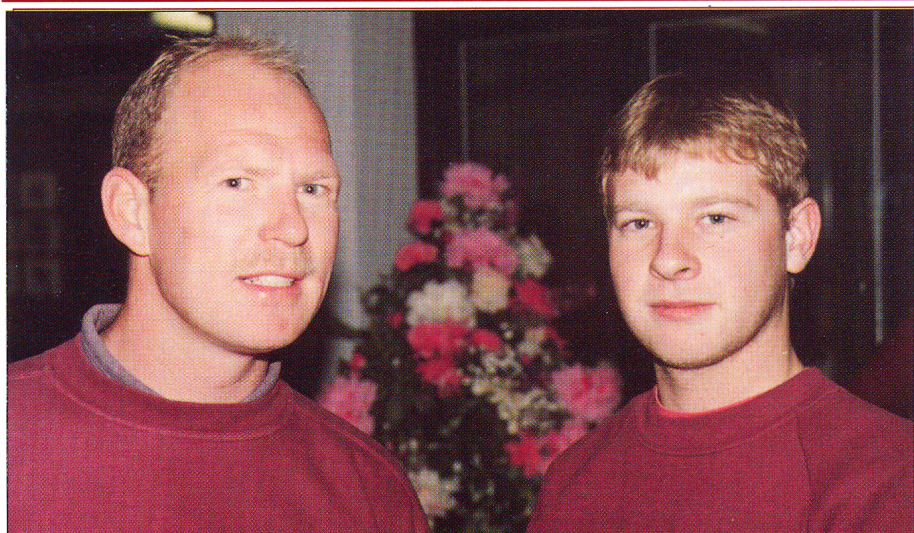
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Consultation and Choice

The School was praised for 'its wide range of consultation with parents, students, staff and members of the Industrial community' in helping to move the School forward.

'The choice of areas of study available to Thomas Telford School students is also impressive.'

Future Growth!



Groundsmen Rob Martin and Lawrence Jones received favourable commendation for their outstanding work towards creating a pleasant working environment for the students and staff

Putting Things Right

'The existence of a complaints procedure is encouraging to see, though there are very few complaints...'

Value For Money

'quality and value for money are incorporated into formal planning processes, as part of a continuous process of improvement...whilst, of course, maintaining education standards.'

Innovative Enhancements at no Extra Cost

'All students in Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 have lap-top computers on which are produced Record of Achievement documents and Module Reports.'

'Students can arrive for School as early as 7.30am.'

'The School has extra lessons and activities in the evening.'

Outstanding Commitment

'Thomas Telford School's high standards are achieved with a full range of student abilities, and in a way which ensures outstanding commitment to the School from students, their parents, sponsors, staff and the majority of the local community.'

'The vision, generosity and wise counsel of the Governing Body have always played a vital part in the School's development.'



Message from the Head

A third group of Sixth Formers have now left us and received all our best wishes for successful careers.

I am proud that they have maintained our excellent success in examination passes and purposeful destinations.

There is much to celebrate this term and I would like to express my gratitude to all concerned with the life of the School for their contributions. All our efforts are for one purpose - the students.

Onward to further success is our next step with next year's GCSE results our key target for high standards. Thank you all for your continued support.

Drugs Awareness for Parents

Mrs Griffin's suggestion for a Drugs Awareness Presentation for Parents at the Governors' meeting has proved to be well worthwhile. The School held a Drugs Awareness Evening for parents on the 4 December.

Many people felt that whilst it was a good thing that their children develop an increased awareness of the problem of drugs, it would also be extremely useful for their parents to update their knowledge.

A presentation and discussion was led by Sergeant Glyn Evans of Malinslee Police Station who helps with the programme for the students of the School. Other speakers included an Officer from the Drugs Squad and a local pharmacist who helped explain some of the symptoms and effects of the more common substances. Sergeant Evans said, 'No one agency has the answer. Parents play a vital role in combating this menace.'

Top Teacher Award



Mr Rogers received his Award and a cheque for £100 from His Royal Highness, The Duke of Kent, KG at a ceremony in London.

Thomas Telford School Science teacher, Mr Simon Rogers, has just been chosen as one of the nine 1995 Institution of Electrical Engineers/National Electronics Council Teacher Award winners.

The annual Awards are made to teachers in primary and secondary education who, through good practice, enthusiasm and dedication, have encouraged students to develop a keen interest in subjects appropriate to electrical, electronic and manufacturing engineering.

Mr Rogers, Head of Key Stage 3 Science at the School, won the Award for his hard work in establishing industrial links both locally and nationally.

Advisory Council News

Firstly, we would like to welcome the new year's intake, this bringing the School to its full complement and it was good to see so many parents taking the opportunity to experience the School at work on the Open Day.

In recent months the Advisory Council have helped to implement the School's Behaviour Policy. This year the Social Development Committee have already held a number of events. The Quiz Evening and Bavarian Evening held this term were enjoyed by those taking part, whom we would like to thank for their support in our efforts to raise funds for the School. It has been a challenge in the past to focus our information on all of those interested in the social events; therefore we are hoping to start a mailing list. If you wish to be included, would you, initially, please hand into the School Reception four stamped addressed envelopes (marked for the attention of Mrs Gibson). This would give priority for tickets as they become available.

If you have any ideas for the allocation of Advisory Council funds we would be pleased to hear from you. We are also available to any parents who may need further information about the School or wish to make suggestions for improvement.

Finally, our thanks go to Kevin Satchwell, Headmaster, and all members of staff for their help and support in yet another successful year and congratulations to the students who have had excellent examination results.



Sports and the Arts at

Hi Ho, Hi Ho its on the road we go!



Thomas Telford School Performing Arts students currently touring local schools with their Pantomime version of the classic 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.'

The festive season is upon us once again and once more Thomas Telford students are making merry. A group of Performing Arts students are responsible for taking the time to tour local primary schools with their version of 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.' Sponsored by Barclays Bank, this fun filled offering is guaranteed to bring a smile to all. The Troupe are ably supported by Drama tutor Mr Nigel Griffiths and Mr David Bowdley.

D of E Gold for Louise

Louise Pengilly was invited to St James' Palace at the end of November to receive her Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Louise, who was accompanied by her mother, met the Duke and was presented with her certificate by the tennis star, Sue Barker. Other celebrities present included the actress, Nerys Hughes and

Olympic Silver Medallist, Phil Brown. Miss Angela Bradley, who runs the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme at Thomas Telford School, said, 'Louise worked hard to achieve this Award and it is good to see her rewarded for all the trials she put herself through to get her Gold Award.'



Ship Ahoy

Sixth Form Information Technology students, Lorna Evans and Anthony Scotto sailed off over their respective horizons when they joined the Tall Ships Youth Sailing Expeditions this summer as part of STA (Sail Training Association) which seeks to develop leadership qualities in young adults aged 16 - 24 years.

Both Lorna and Anthony sailed approximately 1000 miles each, sailing from Oban in the North West of Scotland via the Outer Hebrides and the Orkney Islands to Hartlepool and Aberdeen respectively. During the 10 day trip both students learnt to keep watch, take their bearings, handle sail, sing sea-shanties and bravely man the yard-arms, which Lorna really enjoyed!

Lorna Evans said, 'The journey pushed me to my physical limits as well as developing my communication and teamwork skills in a challenging environment.' Their places on the expeditions were sponsored by The Mercers' Company of the City of London, one of the School's major sponsors.



Lorna spending time in the 'stocks' during her expedition

Thomas Telford School

Course for Non swimmers

Thank you to Mrs A M Johnson, a parent who wrote to the Headmaster, Mr Satchwell, asking for swimming to be provided for non swimmers.

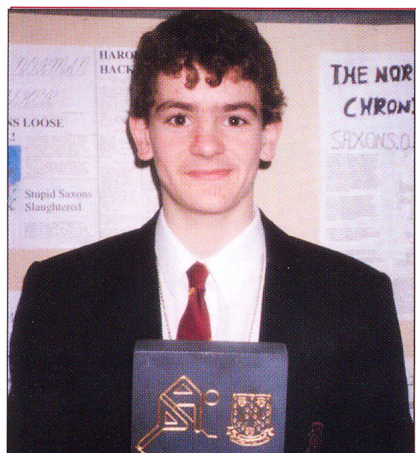
Mr Douch has now arranged for a swimming course to be provided for all Year 7 non swimmers and we shall repeat this each year for the new intake.

The School is always willing to receive ideas for improvement from parents.

International Evening

Year 11 student, Daniel Mackriel, was present at Shropshire Sports Council International Evening at the Shirehall, Shrewsbury on 4 December for all those in the county who had played their chosen sport for their country in 1995.

This is the second year Daniel, who plays Ice Hockey for England, has been invited to this prestigious event where he received a commemorative trophy to mark the occasion.



Daniel Mackriel proudly displays his Award

Rugby League comes to Telford

Thomas Telford School Deputy Headteacher, Mr Dave Berry, has established a new Rugby League initiative involving four local Telford Primary Schools. Children train or play their matches on a Saturday morning at Leegomery, Brookside, Stirchley and Randlay and has proved a great success with over 50 youngsters already registered to play. As recognition of the progress already made, Mr Berry has accepted an invitation to sit on BARLA's National Mini-League Committee which holds its monthly meetings in Huddersfield in West Yorkshire.

Thank you to Midland Bank



Through the kind generosity of Midland Bank our under 14 hockey players Jonathon Woodrow and Jared Owen show off their new strip. They are joined by Mr Arch of Midland Bank and Miss Coyle the team manager.

Dates for Your Diary

| | | | | | |
|-------|-----|---|-------|------|--------------------------------|
| 2 | Jan | Spring term starts | 13 | May | GCSE Exams start |
| 8 | Jan | Year 11 Mock GCSE Exams | 27-31 | May | (Half term) |
| 19-23 | Feb | (Half - term) | 8-9 | July | Staff Training Days |
| 5 | Mar | Year 9 KS4 Consultation Evening | 10 | July | *ROA Evening |
| 2 | Apr | Sixth Form Certificate Presentation Evening | 13 | July | Summer Fayre |
| 4 | Apr | Spring term ends | 16-18 | July | *School Production of 'Grease' |
| 17 | Apr | GNVQ Results | 23 | July | *Achievement Evening |
| 22 | Apr | Summer term starts | 30 | July | Summer term ends |
| 6 | May | Bank Holiday | 15-16 | Aug | A Level Results service |
| 7 | May | Year 9 SAT's start | 22-23 | Aug | GCSE Results service |

* Please note that these dates have changed due to clashes with examination dates and commitments.





Thomas Telford School

SCHOOL LEAVERS 1995 - DESTINATIONS

The Governing Board of the Thomas Telford School send their congratulations and best wishes to our Sixth Form School leavers. Their current destinations are as follows:-

*The School's main sponsors,
The Mercers' Company of
the City of London and
Tarmac PLC recognise the
outstanding progress made
by our students and positive
influence of the parents and
teachers.*

Well Done!

We are very proud of you.

*The School's average
attendance throughout the
duration of the Sixth Form
Courses was 95%.*

*Approximately half of the
students started the Sixth
Form with between one and
five GCSE's at grades A - C,
Higher Education has been
the destination of 66% of our
School leavers. Employment
or deferred entry to
University accounts for
32.5%. The remaining
1.5% (one student) is
currently seeking
employment.*

| | |
|--|--|
| Lloyd Aldridge Dara Atkar Mark Baker Giles Bates Glynn Biddulph Zoe Blair Katie Broughton Richard Clark James Colledge Timothy Conroy Gavin Curley Paul Davies Erica Deakin Alex Dean Stuart Dick Laura Evans Michelle Grant Joyce Griffiths Karen Handley Sarah Hickman Mark Hickman Victoria Homer Elizabeth Lawrence Esther Lewis Joanne Loach Claire Lomas Victoria Mackriel Kim Mooney Rebecca Nixon Claire O'Connell Joanne Oliver Lyndsey Owens Abigail Pattison Matthew Phelps Jenny Plant Simon Poole Sameer Purohit Lee Roberts Patricia Rogers Jonathan Round Edward Rushton Ameet Samani Trevor Shaw Keily Simms Satnam Sond Lorraine Starr Natalie Sterling Joanna Stevens Ben Thomas Mark Thompson Robert Thorburn Scott Tinsley Ross Tipton Clinton Townsend Andrew Phillips Sarah Underhill Davina Ward Heather Wheeler Philip Wilkes Gary Williams Sarah Wilson | I TeC Computer Training Currently in India City University BA Business and Management Science Chester College BA Sports Science West of England University B Eng. Employment Tarmac Accounts Dept Deferred University place Dundee University BSc Electronics University of Wolverhampton BA Business Employment Multi-bowl University of Wolverhampton BSc Environmental Science Retail Management Tesco Liverpool Institute for the Performing Arts BA Performing Arts Employment Lilleshall Sports Centre Secretarial Currently seeking employment Worcester College of H.E. BSc Biological Science Employment Professional Assistant Labfax Employment Licensing Trade Leeds University BSc Statistics & Management Studies Southampton University BSc Environmental Science Derby University Mechanical Engineering University of Wolverhampton BA Law/Personnel Worcester College of H.E. BSc Biological Science University of Wolverhampton BA Leisure Management Employment Care Assistant Apex Nursing Manchester Employment UCI Cinemas awaiting entry for Paramedic Service New College, Wellington University of Bradford BA Sociology University of Aberystwyth BA Performing Arts Derby University BA Arts Therapy Deferred University place Employment Thomas Telford School Derby University BSc Occupational Therapy Employment Rowan Telemac Draughtsman Employment Children's Nanny Army Royal Signals De Montfort University BSc Management Science Oxford Brookes University BSc Mathematics & Teacher Training Luton University BA Business Employment Next Huddersfield University BA Business University of Central England HND Business Administration Employment Epson UK Oxford Brookes University BSc Nutrition and Dietetics Coventry University B Eng Army Application University of Surrey BA Nursing Employment Care Assistant Stourbridge College of Art Foundation Course De Montfort University BSc Applied Chemistry Derby University BA Business Employment Safety Film Business Employment Moathouse Hotel Southend College Law A Levels Employment Novotel Wolverhampton Deferred University place currently working in USA Derby University BA Psychology University of Wolverhampton BA European Bus. Administration University of Wolverhampton HND Business University of Hallam, Sheffield BA Leisure Management Manchester Metropolitan University BSc Environmental Health |
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