

Aim Higher - Kimberley Dunn

Wodensborough CTC- 2000-2005

Walsall College- 2005-2007

University of Worcester- 2007- present



Background

I was a student at Wodensborough CTC from 2000- 2005. Throughout my time at Wodensborough I would try my best to achieve my full potential, however there were times when I would easily get distracted and not work to the best of my ability. Year 11 was when I realised that I needed qualifications to progress in education after school after a meeting with Connexions. Teachers and my parents would always highlight how important qualifications are but I never realised until I started looking at options of what careers to follow after I left school. It was hard work throughout my last year of school but was worth it when I received my results. I left with 11 GCSES with 8 of these being grades A-C.

My main interest when leaving school was sport and physical education. I wasn't 100% what career pathway I wanted to follow therefore my parents encouraged me to continue studying in a subject I enjoyed and was interested in. Therefore I chose to continue studying hoping to find a career pathway within sport. I chose to go to Walsall College where I studied a BTEC National Diploma in Sport and Exercise. I felt this was the best option for me as I could just concentrate on one subject area and by choosing a BTEC all work was coursework based.



I went to Walsall College on my own, which at first was a worry of mine.

After a few weeks at the college I had made plenty of new friends and made me see that starting new places can make you more independent and give you the chance to interact with new people giving you more confidence when meeting new people. While studying at College I enjoyed two years of looking at a variety of areas within sport from Nutrition, Sport Management, Work experience, Coaching, Fitness etc. College seemed very different to school as I was not timetabled into college every day, 9-3.30pm and had plenty of time to work on my own. I received support from college lecturers in theory and practical but had times where I would be set work and had to be motivated to work out of lesson times. By covering a variety of different areas within sport I felt that I had the chance to see what areas I would maybe like to continue with. Near the end of my 2 years at college I began to realise I would like to aim for a career as a Physical Education teacher. In order for me to do this I had to continue in Higher Education and go to university.

I finished college in 2007 with a final grade of Distinction, Distinction, and Merit. From achieving these grades I earned my place into all of my chosen universities.



Higher Education

I decided to go to University of Worcester as the university gave me the option of doing a joint honours degree. This is where I chose to do Physical Education with Sport Studies. By doing joint honours I felt I was able to look at Physical Education, if I chose to go into teaching but also left my pathway open incase I wished to pursuit a career elsewhere in sport. Starting university was the most challenging time for me as I was attending a university that was away from home and again I didn't know anyone at the University. The step from college to university was a large one for me with the level of work increasing to a higher standard.

The Future

I am now in my 2nd year of study at Worcester and am really enjoying my course and hope to continue within higher education to gain a career as a PE teacher. When leaving school I was determined to have a successful career in sport as this was my main enjoyment and my strongest area of achievement. Without continuing in higher education I would not have been able to achieve qualifications needed for me to gain a career as a PE teacher.