



PPSG CAREERS NEWSLETTER



WELCOME TO THE THIRD AND FINAL CAREERS NEWSLETTER OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR!

As we reach the end of another busy and successful academic year, many of us are looking forward to a well-deserved summer break.

While summer is first and foremost a time to rest, have fun, and spend time with family and friends, it can also be a great opportunity to reflect on what you enjoy and what sparks your curiosity. For our younger students, this might simply mean noticing the subjects you look forward to most, discovering new hobbies, or having conversations about different jobs. For older students, it may be a chance to explore career pathways, university courses, apprenticeships, or work experience opportunities.

Remember, careers education is not about having all the answers right now; it is about exploring possibilities and learning more about yourself along the way, keeping an open mind. You never know where a conversation, a book, a podcast, a holiday experience, or a part-time job might lead!

I hope you enjoy this final edition of the Careers Newsletter, featuring insights from one of our parents and a recent alumnus reflecting on his gap year.

Have a wonderful summer, and I look forward to supporting you as you continue to explore your future pathways next academic year!

Ms Robles Blanco



WHAT MY CAREER JOURNEY LOOKED LIKE - **A PARENT'S STORY**

Ms Elaine Lang - Consultant

WHAT DO YOU DO?

Barrister-at-Law

WHAT DID YOU WANT TO BE AT SCHOOL?

Journalist or novel writer

WAS YOUR CAREER PATH STRAIGHTFORWARD?

It was straightforward

WHAT SUBJECTS AT SCHOOL HELPED YOU MOST IN YOUR CAREER?

English, as a good command of the language is essential

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DID YOU NEED FOR YOUR JOB?

Law degree and Bar
Professional Qualification

WHICH SKILLS ARE MOST IMPORTANT IN YOUR JOB?

Communication

WHAT DO YOU WISH YOU HAD KNOWN WHEN YOU WERE AT SCHOOL?

I wish I had known how many other job possibilities were out there besides the obvious



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WHAT IS A TYPICAL DAY LIKE IN YOUR JOB?

As Barristers practising in Gibraltar we are in the unique position of being able to also act as solicitors. As such our roles can range from a day in the office dealing with clients to a day in court defending a case. Typically, a Barrister would be involved in litigating cases brought to them by a solicitor but in Gibraltar we are able to deal directly with clients and perform both roles as one person.

I practised as a Barrister-acting-Solicitor at Isolas LLP for over 20 years and specialised in property and private client cases. A typical day would therefore be mainly spent in the office (which Barristers call, Chambers). Receiving clients and taking instructions or updating them on ongoing cases, as well as explaining contracts and other legal documents to them. When not with clients, I'd be at my desk drafting documents, corresponding with lawyers for the "other side" or researching points of law and precedents.

A career in law can be exciting and fulfilling, knowing that you are instrumental in helping others achieve what they require and in many cases making sure justice prevails. I am now a Consultant at Isolas LLP and enjoy seeing how the profession continues to attract young people keen to be a voice for those who need it.

WHAT MY CAREER JOURNEY LOOKED LIKE - A PARENT'S STORY

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WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE STUDENTS ABOUT THEIR FUTURE?

Study subjects you love and they will lead you to a career you will enjoy

WOULD YOU RECOMMEND THIS CAREER?

Yes if you like to work hard, enjoy reading and like to argue



LIFE AFTER PRIOR PARK -

AN ALUMNI STORY

Finnian Rawley (2025 cohort)

WHAT A LEVELS DID YOU STUDY?

I chose English lit and Spanish because I've always liked communication and understanding different cultures. Pairing them with a Digital Media BTEC was great because it let me get creative and learn how to make actual content, whether it be localised marketing material or international. If I could go back and choose differently I probably would have not done my btech course... I say this because it has in fact closed some doors for me but it was nonetheless very interesting.

WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO TAKE A GAP YEAR?

Honestly, after years of intense schooling, I felt like I needed a break from the classroom to clear my head and find some real motivation before locking into my next big step. I wanted to experience life outside of a rigid academic structure, build some genuine independence, and test myself in the real world. A gap year felt like the perfect opportunity to combine hard work with a massive adventure, see new parts of the world, and put my language skills to use in real-life situations.



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WHAT HAVE YOU DONE DURING YOUR GAP YEAR?

I completely split my year into two distinct phases to make it happen. For the first four months, I stayed in London and worked flat out, grinding to save up every penny I could to fund my plans. Once I had the money together, my best mate Pablo and I grabbed our backpacks and set off on a massive journey through Chile, Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia, and the USA. We spent months navigating different countries, exploring incredible landscapes, immersing ourselves in local cultures.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR MOST VALUABLE EXPERIENCE?

The most valuable things we took from this has been The incredible sense of achievement that came from funding and executing the trip myself. Earning my own money in London and then using it to navigate five different countries taught me so much about financial responsibility and maturity. Also, being able to actually connect with people in South America using my Spanish completely changed my perspective on how big the world is.

AND THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE?

The biggest challenge was adapting to the constant unpredictability of long-term travel. Going from a structured lifestyle in London to dealing with missed buses in remote areas, managing fluctuating budgets across multiple currencies, and having travel plans fall through on the fly was stressful. Pablo and I had to learn how to keep a cool head, problem-solve together under pressure, and just keep moving.

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WHAT IS NEXT FOR YOU AFTER YOUR GAP YEAR?

My next step is heading back into education/my career goals, but I'm approaching it with way more energy and focus than I had a year ago. The gap year didn't necessarily change my career plans, but it definitely broadened my horizons. Seeing how interconnected the world is has made me realize how much I want to involve travel, languages, and global media in my future career. Working hard and exploring the world has made me feel a lot more "grown-up" and genuinely ready to tackle what's next.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO A STUDENT CONSIDERING A GAP YEAR?

Go for it, and definitely grab a mate to share the journey with if you can! My biggest piece of advice is to embrace the grind early on—working hard for those first few months in London made finally getting on that plane feel so much more rewarding because we earned it ourselves. Don't over-plan every single day of your trip; leave room for unexpected adventures, and don't panic when things go wrong, because figuring it out as you go along is what backpacking is all about.



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AN ALUMNI STORY 〰

Finnian Rawley (2025 cohort)



A QUESTION TO ASK -

What would you like to see in next year's Careers Newsletter? Is there a job, career path, workplace, or future opportunity you would like to explore? Let me know in the comments!