



Jemma Taylor

At St Thomas More, Jemma Taylor studied **Fine Art, Media Studies, English Language and Psychology** before continuing her education at the **University of Hertfordshire**, where she pursued a degree in Event Management – encouraged by her teacher, Mrs Cotgrove.

Jemma's career journey has been anything but traditional. She began in visual merchandising while at university but soon realised her ambitions lay elsewhere. With no set plan but plenty

of determination, she took her first step into the professional world as a receptionist in the City. That role became the foundation for her next opportunity: supporting the CEO at the men's health charity Movember. The experience gave her an invaluable insight into leadership, purpose, and the impact of meaningful work.

When the pandemic struck, Jemma faced redundancy and a big decision. She reflected on what she truly wanted and recognised that London life wasn't for her. Taking a bold step, she embraced a new role in Essex – one that ultimately set her on the path to where she is today. Fast forward to the present, Jemma has worked her way up to become a Chief of Staff in the tech industry, working fully remote in a position she never initially envisioned, but one that perfectly suits her strengths and passions.

Reflecting on her journey, Jemma shares:

"I didn't take the most obvious route, but I've learned that success doesn't always come from knowing exactly where you're going – it comes from being brave enough to start, and resilient enough to keep going."

The quote she lives by captures her outlook perfectly:

"It won't happen overnight, but if you quit it won't happen at all."

Jemma's story is a brilliant reminder that career paths don't have to be straightforward to be successful – resilience, adaptability and courage can lead to opportunities you may never have imagined.

PROFILE:

NAME: Jemma Taylor

JOB: Chief of Staff

YEAR left STM: 2012

A LEVELs in Fine Art, Media Studies, English Language and Psychology

University of Hertfordshire

Events Management