

Izzy Milburn – Insights Analyst and Marathoner

When were you at Langley School (please give start and finish years) 2006-2013

What did you take at A Level? Design & Technology, Photography, Business Studies

Did you know what career you wanted to follow when you were at Langley? I've always loved design, photography and D&T really allowed me to be creative. Both departments helped me a lot too with finding the perfect university that allowed this creativity to continue.

Which extra-curricular activities/societies/sports teams/trips were you involved with whilst at Langley? I was (and still am) a keen sports player. Whilst at Langley I think I participated in every sports team possible. This has carried on into my early twenties where I am now taking part in Ultra-marathon running races across the globe.

Linking to the above, do you think any extra activities you took part in have been useful within your career and given you transferable skills? Langley's extra-curricular activities allowed me to further practise particular skills, these skills are still present with me today, and have made me the athlete I am now. I really feel sport has allowed me to be more of a rounded person, which is shown with my professional life too.

Did you go to university and if so what did you study? I graduated from Goldsmiths University in June 2017. Whilst there I studied Design, a very broad design course offering students to understand creative thinking as a whole, as opposed to learning one specific design discipline.

How did your career begin? After graduating I took 4 months out of work to go travelling, running marathons and ultramarathons across Indonesia and Nepal. I took a gap year before university, and continued to travel throughout each summer. So this trip was effectively my last travelling adventure before I face the real world of work.

Where are you now in your career and what have been the highlights? I soon return back to London to start my job as an Insights Analyst at a startup I used to freelance for whilst still at University.

On reflection, did your time at Langley School help inform your career choices and your attitude to your career progression? The support at Langley school was brilliant. From the moment A Levels came into conversation I constant support to ensure I made the correct decision for myself. This was an easy decision for me as I knew I loved design and all things creative, I chose my A Levels and University based on what I love, and now after graduating I have also found my dream job too.

Is there any advice you would like to give to students currently considering their A Levels and their career choices?

Choose A Levels that you love and really enjoy, these are the first building blocks to shaping your future, do what you love and do it with passion. The next step will be

choosing a university to study at, and if you walk into that interview with passion for a particular subject, I can't see why they wouldn't love to have you study at their university.

Is there anything else you would like to add? If there is an opportunity - take it! I've started my career based on actively seeking opportunities I had in front of me. Also travel - "Travel is like a book, those who do not travel only read one page." Travelling across the world has opened my mind to so many new things, it also helped me mature and find my love for the mountains and ultra-marathon racing. If you can, I really recommend saving your pennies and buying a ticket to somewhere you've always wanted to go, I can promise you that you won't regret it.