MATT DAVIES

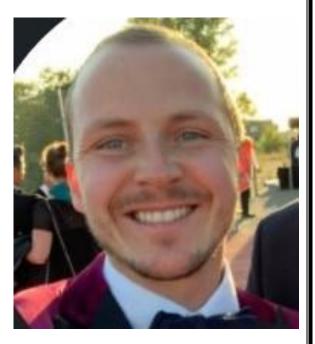
Role: HumanFinalResources Director2006

Final Student Year: ector 2006

"You can achieve whatever you set your mind on"

I'm currently the HR Director at Target Group; we develop Software for banks. We employ 1400 people across the UK. I started working in a call center when I was 18 (Worked in ASDA, Shoe Shop and coffee shop in Merthyr before that!). In school I was a very average student, don't test well and I get bored easily... which made me think I wasn't that smart! When I started working, I realized that learning by doing was what I needed all along. Although I didn't go to Uni I've managed to get promoted multiple times and now I'm a Director at 33 years old. My tips would be to:

- Learning doesn't stop when you leave school – try and continue to push your personal and professional development at every opportunity
- Don't let other people's opinion of you impact your opinion of yourself. Stay insulated, work hard and the only person you need to prove a point to is yourself.
- Surround yourself with people that build you up! Your tribe is important - make sure it's full of people that encourage you.



My experience at Cyfarthfa High School: "I loved my time at school! I was always supported by the teachers and other staff – I came out as gay whilst in school; tough time for me but a handful of teachers made it much less of a daunting experience."