



Termly Alumni

Focus

Term 1 – December 2025

Did you go to Teesdale? Willing to share your career path? Please email Bethany.ward@teesdaleschool.co.uk

Here at Teesdale, we are interested in the role that our School has played in the lives of our alumni and each term we will publish a profile that explores qualifications, experiences and trace career paths.

Meet Lola Holt ...

Qualifications

- 6 GCSEs ranging from Grade 4-9
- 2 BTECS at Level 2 Distinction and above

Career

What is your current job/career path?

I am currently employed as a Business Support Officer for Durham Constabulary. It's a rewarding role where I get to help keep the administrative side of the police force running smoothly for both police officers and staff – and I get to see how a police force operates behind the scenes and learn about the importance of the non-operational departments too. At the same time, I am also working towards my **Level 2 Customer Service Apprenticeship**. This means I'm gaining practical skills in communicating effectively with people, solving problems, and providing a high standard of customer service. It's been interesting because I get to apply what I have learnt directly to my role, and it is helping me develop my confidence and professionalism.

How did you get to your choice of career?

I applied for the apprenticeship whilst I was still at Teesdale after seeing it advertised on Facebook. I went for my interview and was shortlisted for the role – so I went to college after leaving school for a few months but found I preferred the idea of gaining more work experience and practical learning rather than take the academic route. Luckily after a couple of months, I was offered the apprenticeship due to someone dropping out and I started when I was still 16 years old in December 2024, the youngest person working for Durham Constabulary. As of September 2025, I was fortunate enough to be offered the role of Temporary Business Support Officer whilst my colleague is on maternity leave after a successful interview. It's a great opportunity because I now earn double my initial salary, and I still get to finish my apprenticeship while working this new role.

What are your plans for your future in careers?

I have applied to be a 999 Call Handler within the force, and I have been offered to start in September 2026 after assessment and interview, which I am really looking forward to, and maybe in the future I might look into becoming a PCSO.

Top tips:

- Be confident and if you see any applications just go for it, I never expected to land the apprenticeship, but I did so it goes to show it's always worth trying
- Push yourself out of your comfort zone, interviews etc can be daunting but it really puts you into perspective for the future, and you're instantly prepared for job roles you might want later down the line
- What you put in you get out of it, apprenticeships take a lot of work and dedication, but it is worth it if you put the effort into it

For more information about the different careers in the Police – click [here](#).

