After leaving school I found it difficult to decide what I wanted to do with my future. I tried my hand at a variety of things; English and Drama A levels, Public Services and even Hairdressing. Nothing I had done education wise had felt right for me, even after giving the courses my best shot, so I sat down and began to mind map ideas for what I could try next. I spent a while doodling ideas on to a page and staring at it, coming to the conclusion that I was stuck for possible education and career choices. Then it hit me; I was looking at a page full of hand drawn sketches and type and I hadn’t even considered an education in Art and Design, I had only considered it a hobby. I knew from that point onwards that I wanted to take something that I have always enjoyed doing and make something of it.

Starting my BTEC Art & Design course was a big eye opener for me, I learnt about all different creative mediums such as illustration, photography, print and graphic design. I experimented in all mediums, taking it all in and learning new things every day from different creative fields. One of my tutors specialised in Graphic Design and at the time, that subject was something I was very uneducated on.

I had always been drawing typography from such a young age (bubble writing was my forte) and I had done it mindlessly; copying logos off packaging, creating birthday cards, making CD covers for mixes I had created. To find out that these kind of things that I had done out of my own interest was actually something people do and get paid for was mind blowing. I aimed at directing my creative work more towards the Design part of my course, worked hard to teach myself how to use Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator and Indesign, looked into a wide range of graphic designers, artists and illustrators to gain inspiration and carried around a sketch book to jot down any ideas I may have had throughout my days. Some time into my BTEC course I came to realise that Design wasn’t just an education leading onto a career, it was a lifestyle.