

Carl Jones

When I left school in 2002 I decided at the time further education wasn't for me. I managed to find an apprenticeship with a local company in Mildenhall building outside broadcast vehicles.

Five years later and expecting my first son, I enrolled in college where I hoped to achieve a qualification in engineering. The company I worked for allowed me to do this on a day release system and in total I spent 10 years to get to my personal goal of a Bachelor degree with honours in engineering, which I achieved in 2017. During my time at college I stumbled across an advert for a skilled body builder job at Marshall's in Cambridge, I was interviewed and offered the job and they continued to support me through my time at college. I continued on my further education journey and had a career change within Marshalls to a Mechanical Design Engineer. After achieving my degree I received a promotion to Senior Mechanical Design Engineer. I feel honoured to have had the opportunity to lead many exciting projects from armoured vehicles to R & D projects for the UK laser weapon system known as Dragonfire.

I became a governor when my eldest son was in year one, i made this decision as I wanted to make a difference in education and to share my personal experience of further education within the school setting. I feel that by encouraging the younger generation to think they can always achieve more and by supporting our schools we can ensure they have the opportunities in place to excel.

I was originally a governor when the school was run by Suffolk County Council and was part of a collective vote for it to become an academy with ATT I believe this has given the school more external support to allow our children to learn and succeed to their full potential.

My eldest son is now at Mildenhall College Academy, and my youngest son is in upper key stage two. My wife is a teaching assistant at Great Heath Academy which allows me to meet all the staff on a regular basis when I pick them up on a Friday.