

What is your name? - Matthew Campbell

What is your job title/course name? - Assistant Vice Principal and Subject Leader of PE

When were you at Wade Deacon High School? 1998-2003

What is your best memory from school? - The skiing trip to Vermont in 2002 was amazing.

In terms of careers, what do you wish you knew back then? - What was available to me internationally in terms of education or careers.

What is your job/programme of study? - I lead a team of talented PE teachers in the delivery of the PE curriculum at WDHS. I am also the lead on attendance and punctuality at the school as part of my Senior Leadership Team role.

Did you ever expect to have this career/next step towards a career? - I knew that I would work in sport in some capacity and work with people. I didn't think that I would become a teacher when I was in high school though.

How did your studies help you to get into this career? - My GCSE results prepared me for college where I studied a range of A Levels. My degree in Science and Football at LJMU and additional qualification in football coaching gave me a strong platform to move into teaching. I learnt about the Science and Football degree course at LJMU when I attended a careers event at the school in Y9. I knew I wanted to study that course from that moment. Through coaching I developed a love of working with young people and moved into teaching at age 21 after coaching from the age of 18. I continued coaching football for Liverpool Football Club alongside my teaching career until 2020.

What advice would you give to Wade Deacon High students who want to go into this career? - Start now. Look at the college and university courses that you may need to study to work in your chosen field in sport. Remember you are unlikely to make a career as a player but there are still lots of careers in sport available to you. Start gaining experience now in sport. I started volunteering at clubs at the age of 16 and took it upon myself to get out of my comfort zone and get involved in sport as a coach early on. This really helped develop my confidence early. Do not be scared to put yourself out there. Be dedicated as working in sport is competitive and you need to put the hours in to get opportunities. But if you love it, this will be exciting rather than a chore.