



ISSUE FOUR

School of Arts & Creative Industries | Magazine

**School of  
Arts &  
Creative  
Industries**

MI  
MA

**U** Teesside  
University

Creating a  
sustainable  
future

[tees.ac.uk/creativearts](https://tees.ac.uk/creativearts)



# HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE SCHOOL OF ARTS & CREATIVE INDUSTRIES?

“  
IT NURTURES  
TALENT.

“  
OUR STUDENTS  
CHANGE PLACES  
AND SPACES.

“  
STUDENTS USE  
THEIR IMAGINATION  
TO CREATE WORKS  
OF BEAUTY.

“  
PEOPLE LEARN  
TO INTERPRET  
THE WORLD  
THROUGH ART.

“  
STUDENTS ARE  
ENCOURAGED  
TO CHALLENGE  
SOCIETAL VIEWS.

“  
IT'S A PLACE  
WHERE PEOPLE  
LEARN TO LOOK AT  
THE WORLD IN A  
DIFFERENT WAY.

## WELCOME FROM THE DEAN

### Dear future artists and designers

From trainers made from pineapple skins, to jackets made of recycled bottles, there are so many ways that art, design and media play a role in sustainability. This edition of our magazine looks at just some of the ways that our artists, designers and media specialists are contributing to climate change, nature recovery and sustainability.

The creative industries are driving social change. Design is essentially about finding new solutions and ways of working. Art has a history of shining a light on natural resources and reminding us of the things that matter. Magazines, newspapers, film and TV share new ways of thinking. This is what makes being part of the School of Arts & Creative Industries so energising.

Each year our students continue to inspire us with amazing ideas and projects. In this edition you'll meet current and recent students, staff and alumni who have gone on to have fabulous careers. The range of roles they take on is broad – from working in sports to designing the residencies of diplomats – but in each case they are having an impact on the world.

So, what is that you care about? If you're not sure yet, we'll help you find out!



ENJOY THE MAGAZINE.

**Dr Laura Sillars**  
Dean, School of Arts & Creative Industries



### ON THE COVER

LEFT:

Kinga Czarnocka,  
BA (Hons) Fashion

CENTRE:

Ella Miller,  
BA (Hons) Graphic Design  
and Illustration

RIGHT:

Creative Week 2023

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## ABOUT



# What to expect at our School of Arts & Creative Industries



**A**s an art or design student, you have access to our creative community at MIMA (Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art), our world-famous gallery with a collection and exhibitions programme that hosts amazing modern and contemporary art. The gallery is the beating heart of the School of Arts & Creative Industries. It is also part of the prestigious Plus Tate network and does lots of great work with local communities.

Working in our studios and workshops you experiment in painting, printing and sculpting, and engage with digital media. We have our very own darkroom for analogue photography and our skilled technicians help you bring your ideas to life, supporting you to use our bookbinding equipment, cameras, recording studios and green-screen

production facilities. We've also got a stellar studio for woodworking, 3D printing, metalworking and welding, and have recently invested in updating all of our creative study spaces.

If you are studying media or journalism, you benefit from our newsroom and studios for live broadcasting and newsgathering. You can edit in our post-production suites and work in our broadcast studio and vision gallery, managing live camera feeds and producing visual effects just like in any professional TV studio. Our student-led radio station, TUXtra, offers fantastic opportunities to gain experience of a working station, broadcasting 24/7 during term time.

Studying music production? The latest digital audio production software and hardware, and a dedicated studio with

instruments and music production tools, give you that must-have industry level experience.

Whatever your subject, you are part of Europe's first Adobe Creative Campus, helping you develop the creative and digital communication skills to succeed at university and beyond. You have access to a suite of 20+ world-class, industry standard creative apps including Photoshop and InDesign, enabling you to supercharge your creative, communication and collaboration skills.

Start your future now  
[tees.ac.uk/creativearts](https://tees.ac.uk/creativearts)

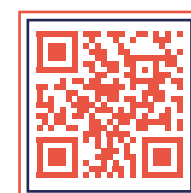


## ABOUT

# MIMA GALLERY



Updated credit required



**MIMA**  
(Middlesbrough  
Institute of Modern Art)

**MIMA is an international art gallery and museum, connecting art, people and ideas. We commission, collect and re-think modern and contemporary art to make a creative and public space.**

We work closely with local and global partners to put art into action and build engagement with the public. MIMA is a cultural and community hub that places equality, diversity and inclusion at the heart of our work. Part of Teesside University, MIMA is powered by a vision to positively contribute to society.





# I MAKE A LIVING WITH MY IMAGINATION.

In discussion with Franc Roddam



**B**est known as the creator of *Auf Wiedersehen, Pet* and global phenomenon *MasterChef*, as well as director of cult classic *Quadrophenia*, acclaimed filmmaker Franc Roddam has seen huge success in his journey from Teesside to Hollywood.

Franc grew up in Norton in Stockton-on-Tees and started his career as an engineering apprentice training to work in the shipyards. He returned to education with a scholarship to study the arts at London Film School, paving the way to his success as an accomplished filmmaker, director, writer and producer.

His many professional accolades include Grammy and Golden Globe nominations and the prestigious Prix Italia Drama Prize for his direction of award-winning TV drama *Dummy*, as well as an honorary Doctorate of Arts from Teesside University in 2019. Despite his international fame, Franc remains passionate about providing opportunities for up-and-coming creatives from his home region. He has set up the Franc Roddam Scholarship which awards five film and television production students £6,000 paid across their three years of study.

## Tell us about your journey to Hollywood

I was competing with the best from France, Germany, Australia and the States, and suddenly I found myself at the Olympics of filmmaking and media. I pushed very hard to get into film, TV and Hollywood, and if I could do something that I hadn't done, I would've pushed harder. It's very important to attack it full on, it's not an industry where you can be shy. But what I love about the choice I made is that I was brought up to think I should make a living with my hands as a tradesman, as a carpenter, electrician or engineer, but now I make a living with my imagination, so that's the fantastic thing.

## What do you miss most about Teesside?

Surrounding Teesside is the most beautiful landscape, up in the Cleveland Hills and going across to Whitby – I really do miss that. I also miss the terrific humour – they're very funny people and I learned a lot of good stories and storytelling abilities from working in the shipyards and on building sites, hearing the chat (or the craic as they used to call it) between different people.

## Tell us about your honorary degree

Teesside University was very gracious and gave me a Doctorate of Arts, which was a phenomenal thing to happen. When I went up to receive it, I was so impressed by the University, its style and manner. It just felt very modern, young and switched on. And the University gives the area great opportunities for investment.

## Why have you given a scholarship to Teesside students?

Teesside gave me a grant for my tuition fees and accommodation, so I'm very grateful. I hope the film and television production students can use the scholarship to focus on their studies and imagination without having to take on part-time jobs. We want to make sure that Teesside, with all this talent, is able to thrive and that is what the University is doing, and that's why I'm very proud to be part of it and why I'd like to give back.

Watch the full interview  
[teessi.de/franc-roddam](https://teessi.de/franc-roddam)



# SUSTAINABILITY IN THE ARTS: A CREATOR'S CAREER



## AMY DOVER

Senior Lecturer in Graphic Design

Amy Dover is an artist and illustrator who uses her work to change people's perceptions of animals. She believes that many people see them as inferior to humans and do not fully appreciate their importance, complexity and beauty which Amy shows off in intricate detailed drawings. Amy shares her beliefs that these creatures are a crucial part of the ecosystem, her love for nature and her hope for a deeper connectiveness.

'We live in a disappearing world, many of the species we share our beautiful planet with, may no longer exist. Can we use drawing to help change our relationship with other animals and help in the fight against extinction?

Growing up, my passion for animals started at an early age. I spent a lot of time in the woodland and countryside where I lived, observing and studying nature like the artist and author of my favourite books, Beatrix Potter. This

fascination continued into my adult life and career. My work has been exhibited internationally in galleries and I'm a commercial illustrator for a range of international clients including World Animal Protection and Born Free.

I've travelled to draw first-hand animals and to tell their stories, including working with endangered species in Thailand, to hiking in the Carpathian Mountains in Romania to draw wild bears. I lived with the indigenous Kuna tribe in remote Panama between Darien Jungle and The Caribbean Sea; by a river which is home to quite a lot of crocodiles. I spent time learning from the tribe's links with nature and studying the wildlife. I particularly enjoyed late night walks along the beach to see giant leather back turtles give birth in the moonlight.

My drawings often toy with proportions and surrealism to subvert illustrations.

I like to focus on animals we have lost and are losing, to question the human impact on the world. I aim to generate deeper connections as well as support the fight against speciesism and the abuse of other animals.

My journal and sketchbook, and drawings and prints are currently forming the development of a book and exhibition.

@amy\_dover

Find out more  
[teessi.de/illustration](https://teessi.de/illustration)





# Teesside University is proud to be Europe's first Adobe Creative Campus.

We're committed to helping everyone develop digital literacy and creative skills so they can succeed at university and in the modern economy.

By choosing Teesside University, you'll get these unique benefits:

- Free access to the full set of industry-leading Adobe Creative Cloud apps and services across all your devices.
- Opportunities to build persuasive communication skills - Power up your projects with stunning presentations, standout infographics and memorable portfolios.
- Training and support to help you quickly learn new ways to creatively present your work and ideas to wide audiences.
- The ability to graduate with visual, audio, and storytelling skills that can help you accelerate your career path.

Learn more about Creative Cloud:



## SUBJECT SPOTLIGHT: JOURNALISM

### JIM ENTWISTLE

Senior Lecturer in Digital Journalism



Jim spent four years as a reporter on *The Northern Echo* where he covered a mix of court, council and other current affairs across the North East. He moved on to become Head of Marketing and Communications at the Great North Air Ambulance Service, part of an award-winning team which gained international recognition for its pioneering pre-hospital care service. He joined Teesside University in 2022 and is a senior lecturer in digital journalism.

## DOCUMENTING YOUR FAVOURITE SPORTS TEAM

## HOLDING POWER TO ACCOUNT

## INVESTIGATING WRONGDOING

## CHAMPIONING THE UNDERDOG

IF ANY OR ALL OF THIS SOUNDS INTERESTING, THEN A DEGREE IN JOURNALISM OR SPORTS JOURNALISM SHOULD BE YOUR NEXT STEP.

### AND HERE'S WHY YOU SHOULD MAKE IT TEESSIDE UNIVERSITY

#### 1. NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE TRAINING OF JOURNALISTS (NCTJ)

Our degree courses are accredited with the NCTJ, giving you the opportunity to work towards the industry-expected NCTJ diploma – often an essential requirement in graduate media jobs.

#### 2. STAFF

Our supportive team of academics and technicians have the industry experience and contacts needed to kickstart your career in journalism. Whether you are brimming with ideas and confidence, or if you need a bit more of a helping hand, we're looking forward to working with you.

#### 3. ETHOS

You may be set on writing for newspapers or see a career in front of the camera, broadcasting to the nation. You may even want to set up your own news enterprise. It's all fine with us – we work with you to understand and shape your career path and support you to get there. If you've got a passion, come and grow it with us. If you haven't, come and get that inspiration.

#### 4. FACILITIES

Learn in our industry standard TV and radio studios, with specialist technicians on hand to help you get up to speed with the equipment. And get your work published on TUXtra, our online news service broadcasting worldwide.

#### 5. INDUSTRY LINKS

We have strong links with national and local news media. Many Teesside graduates are working in the industry and continue to shape our courses. We have one of the biggest media companies in the UK right here on our Middlesbrough campus – Reach PLC have offices here and offer our students the chance to work in their newsroom as part of their studies.

Journalism teaches us to be concise in our writing, which is why we've limited this to just five reasons. We could have given you a lot more. But we'll save those for the next open day – come and join us.



Find out more  
[teessi.de/ugmedia](https://teessi.de/ugmedia)





# ZARA'S COSMIC ZOOMIES



It isn't just paintings reflecting on the world we live in. It's also creative designs that can educate and change the world. Design student Zara King has been working on a project to reduce the stigma surrounding food poverty and the use of food banks for children.

She entered a Royal College of Arts competition in the 'All Being Well' brief focusing on how we form healthy habits in communities and changing people's perceptions. Working as a teaching assistant in a primary school meant Zara had seen first-hand how the stigma surrounding food poverty affects children.

Zara met with the Middlesbrough Trussell Trust about their work and how it impacts the families they work with. She discussed her initial project idea and received positive feedback, with the Trussell team expressing an interest in trialling her project once complete. After the research phase, Zara created a kit for children aged 5 - 12 that is fun, interactive, easy to use and educational, avoiding any links to food poverty.

The interactive kit includes a comic featuring an alien race coming to our planet in their quest for interesting food, recipes which match up with the

ingredients in the food parcel, an educational board game and measuring tools.

Instructions are simple, incorporating different languages such as Arabic script, making them accessible to all children, regardless of background. Kits are made with sustainable materials, including one-piece packaging, which also helps to reduce production costs.

At the time of writing Zara is putting the finishing touches on her competition entry, follow our social channels for updates on how she gets on.

@teesunicreativearts

Find out more  
[teessi.de/ugart](https://teessi.de/ugart)



# IMAGES OF DISABILITY

Professor Simon McKeown

Professor Simon McKeown gives us an insight into his latest work, *Images of Disability: Images and Imaginations of Impairment and Disability in the Hans Würtz Collection*



My latest project explores a unique collection of over 3,500 images, sculptures, and paintings representing impairment and disability. The material was assembled in Berlin between 1910 and 1932 by the director of the Oskar-Helene-Heim disability institute, Hans Würtz. Following the exhibition in 1932 and in the midst of the Nazi rise to power, the collection was exported out of necessity and sold to The Jedlička Institute, a disability organisation in Prague where it remains today along with the Czech Medial Library. The collection consists of a wide range of things that caught Würtz's eye: original

oil paintings, lithographs, pottery, statues, press cuttings, and all kinds of things relating to disability that he found in second-hand stores, charity shops and visiting country fairs. When Würtz exhibited his collection, he made the mistake of including the chief propagandist for the Nazi Party, Joseph Goebbels, with a club foot in his lists of those known to have disabilities. Later Würtz lost his job as director and soon after found himself in the position of having to flee Germany.

The project came about following my work with DOX Centre for Contemporary Art in Prague in 2013 on a very innovative exhibition entitled *Disabled by Normality*. Part of the Würtz collection was included in the exhibition. Later I met Professor Oliver Musenberg, who had completed his PhD on Würtz and his life, and we developed a project to digitise and produce a contemporary interpretation of the imagery. Some of the oil paintings could be up to 300 years old. Whether they're originals or turn out to be reproductions of lost masterpieces will be really interesting to discover. There are also many statues that are exquisitely made and are mostly a mystery to us at this stage.

This is such an exciting project and one that impacts many areas that we teach within the University. It's fascinating

to study the cartoons and graphic designs in the collection from the 1920s to understand how methods, styles, and techniques have changed. The collection is full of prints, some of which are historically important, so this is a

great learning resource for our fine art students. We have excellent 3D workshops where students can explore works in the collection such as human characters made out of wood, metal, pottery and

bone. The techniques and skills shown are exquisite.

This major international project considers the presentation of 'difference' in culture. As we move to a more pluralistic society new knowledge in this area is critical.

Find out more  
[imagesofdisability.org](https://imagesofdisability.org)





# COMICS AND FOOTBALL:

## a match made in heaven

The university is at the heart of Middlesbrough and our academics make time to develop relationships with local employers. Julian Lawrence, a senior lecturer on our comics and graphic novels course, ran a workshop at Middlesbrough Football Club (MFC) with local school children, supported by two of our postgraduate students who gained valuable interactive experience facilitating exercises for the children.

Here is Julian's journal of the day.

I rode my bike to Riverside Stadium to deliver a series of two cartooning workshops that teach Year 4 and 5 primary schoolchildren how to draw Roary the Lion, MFC's furry mascot.

Jim Dyson and Natalie Guy from the MFC Foundation invited me to teach the students how to draw Roary. The children wrote original short anti-bullying stories illustrated with their drawings. Their creations will be collected into an anthology of Roary stories and launched during World Book Day in March 2023.

The air was electric with excitement as 85 children and their teachers sat down in the Hardwick Room. I was certainly excited – I love teaching young people how to cartoon. I started taking my drawing seriously when I was five and, by the time I was nine, had decided to become a cartoonist.

Natalie led the students in conversations around bullying. It was a great way to warm up, as the prompts and activities inspired the children to think, react and move about. MA Comics student Joseph Shovlin supported the activities, while observing ways comics can be applied in educational settings.

Post-warm up I led the class to draw simple geometric shapes, as the basic structures for consistent cartoon

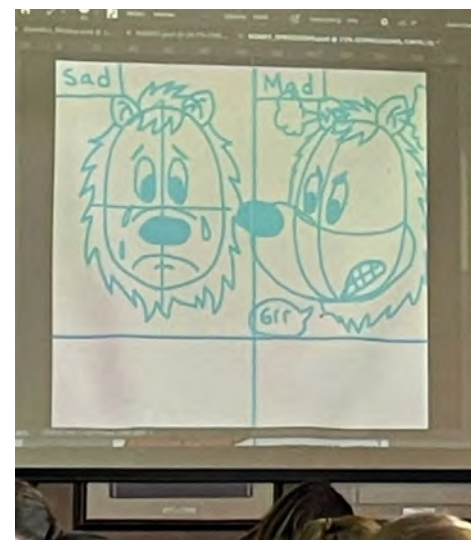


characters. For example, we drew Mickey Mouse's head as a sphere so the children visualised 3D space to draw a sophisticated cartoon character. I applied the same theories to drawing Roary's head and features, body and a variety of facial expressions.

Two weeks later, we all got together again and focused on blending cartooning with writing. Wil Jackson, a creative writer and MA Curating student, facilitated a writing exercise with the students. He said, 'This was a great opportunity to try something new. It's my first time teaching students of this age and I thoroughly enjoyed it.'

The primary students also had a great time discussing anti-bullying and drawing; in fact, one nine-year-old said, 'I'm really inspired to be a cartoonist now!'

Job done!



Find out more  
[teessi.de/comics-graphic-novels](https://teessi.de/comics-graphic-novels)



# KEAVEY SAVES OUR CORALS

**Graphic design student, Keavey Gamwell, showcased her outstanding creative talents on a global platform as she took home bronze at the prestigious Adobe World Championship. We caught up with her to talk through her experience.**

**How did you get involved in the championship?**

There were lots of opportunities as part of my course, one was the Adobe Professional Certification. I passed my exam in Photoshop with a fast time which qualified me for a national competition. Having won that, I got the opportunity to compete at the finals in Anaheim, California.

**What did the finals involve?**

They were at Disneyland, which was incredible. The project was provided

by The Ocean Agency, a not-for-profit organisation focused on preservation of ocean environments and coral reefs. If we won, our work was going to be showcased at COP27 in Sharm-El-Sheik. This is near one of the most well-sustained coral reefs. The preservation of our environment is really important to me and it felt very empowering to combine my skills with an interest of mine.

**Tell us about your project**

Following the brand guidelines, I used coral imagery alongside original illustrations to focus on the beautiful environments on our planet. I felt this work was really eye catching and powerful, and competing in the finals felt like a good culmination of the skills I had learnt in my freelance career and across my time in university.

**What award did you receive?**

I was awarded third place which is the highest the UK have ever placed. It felt amazing to have my project recognised by Richard Vevers, CEO of the Ocean Agency, alongside employees from Adobe and Certipor, who organised the competition.

**What do you hope to achieve now?**

I have even more drive to provide design for change, whether the subject matter is sustainability or personal issues and debates. This once in a lifetime project and event wouldn't have happened without Teesside University.

Find out more  
[teessi.de/ug-graphic-design](https://teessi.de/ug-graphic-design)





## SUBJECT SPOTLIGHT: ILLUSTRATION

### AMY DOVER

Senior Lecturer in Graphic Design

Drawing is a dream job for many. In recent years, the growth of children's books and the publishing industry has seen an increased demand for illustrators. Tech companies such as Apple and Facebook are working with illustrators on big, exciting projects, and self-publishing has seen many become successful business owners.

Our illustration course prepares you for current and future creative industries. You develop a wide range of skills to interpret the world, real or imaginary, and explore your creative voice.

In the first year you focus on traditional drawing and printmaking techniques, and push the boundaries of future technologies. You also enjoy a range of workshops, challenges and experiences.

You explore creative thinking and real-world problem solving in your second year. Turn your hands to

editorial, advertising, storytelling, fashion and character development. Make interventions, explore your creative identity and develop work for site-specific installations. There are also opportunities to work on live briefs and competitions to get ahead in the creative industry.

In your final year you focus on becoming industry-ready. Use your unique voice and put your creative skills to the test in a grand project. Nothing is too big, or too bold. You also create your own brand, build an online presence and establish yourself as a working professional. Teaching covers the varied world of creative industries and life as an illustrator, freelance or in agency.

Throughout the three years you are inspired by different speakers, guest lectures, trips and visits. You are taught

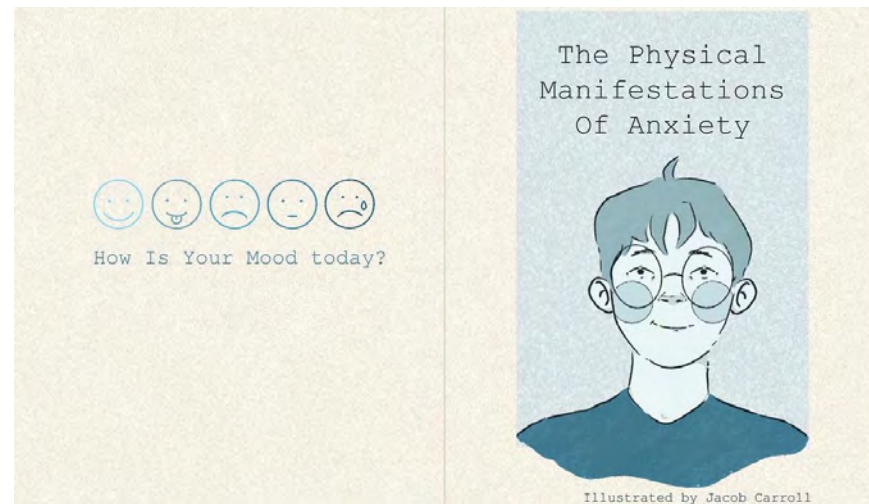
by illustrators with years of experience, who work on innovative live projects and research.

We are proud that our graduates have gone on to work internationally as successful, award-winning illustrators. Start your future at Teesside.

Find out more at an open day, check out our Instagram

Instagram @ba\_illustration\_mima

Find out more  
[teessi.de/illustration](https://teessi.de/illustration)



# MORE AWARDS SUCCESS FOR GRAPHIC DESIGN STUDENTS

### CLEM DUMOULIN

International Society of Typographic Designers (ISTD) Student Awards 2022

I chose the book *Procedure for Writing Words, Music, and Plainsong in Dots* by Louis Braille for my submission to the Shaping the World brief. This is the first manual to explain how to read and write using the braille system.

To show the slow but enormous impact of Braille's book, I created a publication split into six parts. It highlighted each significant point in time from 1815 – when the first dot writing system emerged – to today, ending with a set of interviews with current braille users. Each part of the publication is in a different, gradually larger and looser format (leaflet, booklet, folded timeline, map, poster and envelope with loose sheets) reflecting how braille expanded the world of visually impaired people. All use a page grid derived from the structure of a braille cell.

The project took a lot of work, but achieving a pass and becoming an accredited ISTD member has made it all worth while. Being recognised by such a prestigious design organisation has boosted my confidence and will really help my design career.



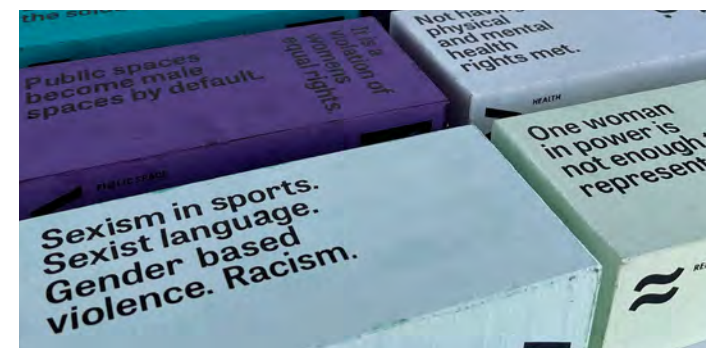
### EMMA MORRIS

International Society of Typographic Designers (ISTD) Student Assessment Scheme 2022

My submission for the 2022 brief, Agenda for Sustainability, focused on one of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. The publication highlighted the many boundaries that women and girls, across the UK and at international level, face because of their gender.

The interactive publication encourages open involvement and conversation, exposing issues and challenging inequalities. It has been carefully curated to educate, empower and support women's voices, while also including men and boys.

Through entering I was able to gain membership to the ISTD, which has been both personally and professionally rewarding.



### ELLA MILLER

Creative Conscience Award 2022

During my second year of graphic design and illustration, I entered two of my projects into the awards.

I was over the moon that my children's book won a silver award in the illustration category, and my interactive app had been shortlisted in the digital and technology category. I love designing with learning in mind, especially about topics I feel passionately about.

Read more about Ella and her work  
[teessi.de/ella-miller](https://teessi.de/ella-miller)







# INTERIOR DESIGN AND THE FOREIGN OFFICE

## HARRIET ARMSTRONG

Senior Interior Designer at The Foreign Office | BA (Hons) Interior Design graduate

**Harriet studied interior design at Teesside and is now a senior interior designer at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London. We met up with her to chat about how her studies helped her prepare for the working world.**

### Tell us about your course

I just loved everything about it. I undertook a foundation year which helped build my confidence, and I studied a subject that I really enjoyed. Students from a number of courses all studied in the same building so there was a great community vibe. It was very collaborative, much like the design working world.

### What work experience did you gain?

I worked at Hemingway Design in London during the summer holidays. And I also took part in Erasmus, an EU student

exchange programme, where I studied at a design school in France for six months. It was beyond the best experience, eating baguettes all day and having so much fun.

I learnt a lot of design skills including computer-aided design, but I also learnt how to collaborate, which really helped when I came to work in industry.

### What did you do after graduation?

I moved to London and started work as an intern at Russell Sage Studio, where I worked my way up within the company. They worked with a lot of hotels, private members clubs, bars and restaurants, so it was such a creative, amazing experience. I now work at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office as part of their design team. I'm a senior interior designer, designing spaces for British ambassador residencies around the world.

### What advice would you give to others thinking of studying interior design?

Go for it, especially at Teesside, it's a brilliant, dynamic university. You get lots of industry experience, which is great for building the foundations of your future career. And the location is ideal, you have everything, including the town, countryside, coast, restaurants and bars.

Learn more about Harriet's career  
[teessi.de/interior-design](https://teessi.de/interior-design)



# THE MIMA GREAT CREATE: A WINNER'S STORY

By Jonathan Raiseborough

**DEVELOPED IN COLLABORATION WITH OUR SCHOOL OF ARTS & CREATIVE INDUSTRIES AND MIMA. THE MIMA GREAT CREATE IS AN ANNUAL COMPETITION SHOWCASING NEW CREATIVE TALENT.**

My winning entry for The MIMA Great Create 2022 competition was an illustration called *Boro Skyline*. It was inspired by a local nature reserve, RSPB Saltholme, which I was introduced to through a project in my second year.

I gained lots of ideas at Saltholme that I eventually submitted into my portfolio. The experience helped me grow in confidence as a creative.

For the year I won, the competition brief was to create a visual celebration of our proud North East heritage. I revisited my notes and reference photos from the Saltholme visit and started working on an illustration that captured the full feeling of the area, and how it connects to Middlesbrough and the region. The proximity of nature to

industry, two things you don't normally associate with each other, really struck me about the place and left a strong impression. You can see the transporter bridge and refineries on the skyline in the same scene as you look over pools and grasses sheltering biodiversity – it's pretty impressive.

Having my entry shortlisted in the competition was such a lovely surprise and being able to go to the finalist awards event at MIMA and meet the amazing creatives who had also been shortlisted was so wonderful.

Winning the competition was an incredible experience and meant so much, especially considering the high quality of the other entries. It was a big boost to my confidence as a new creative.

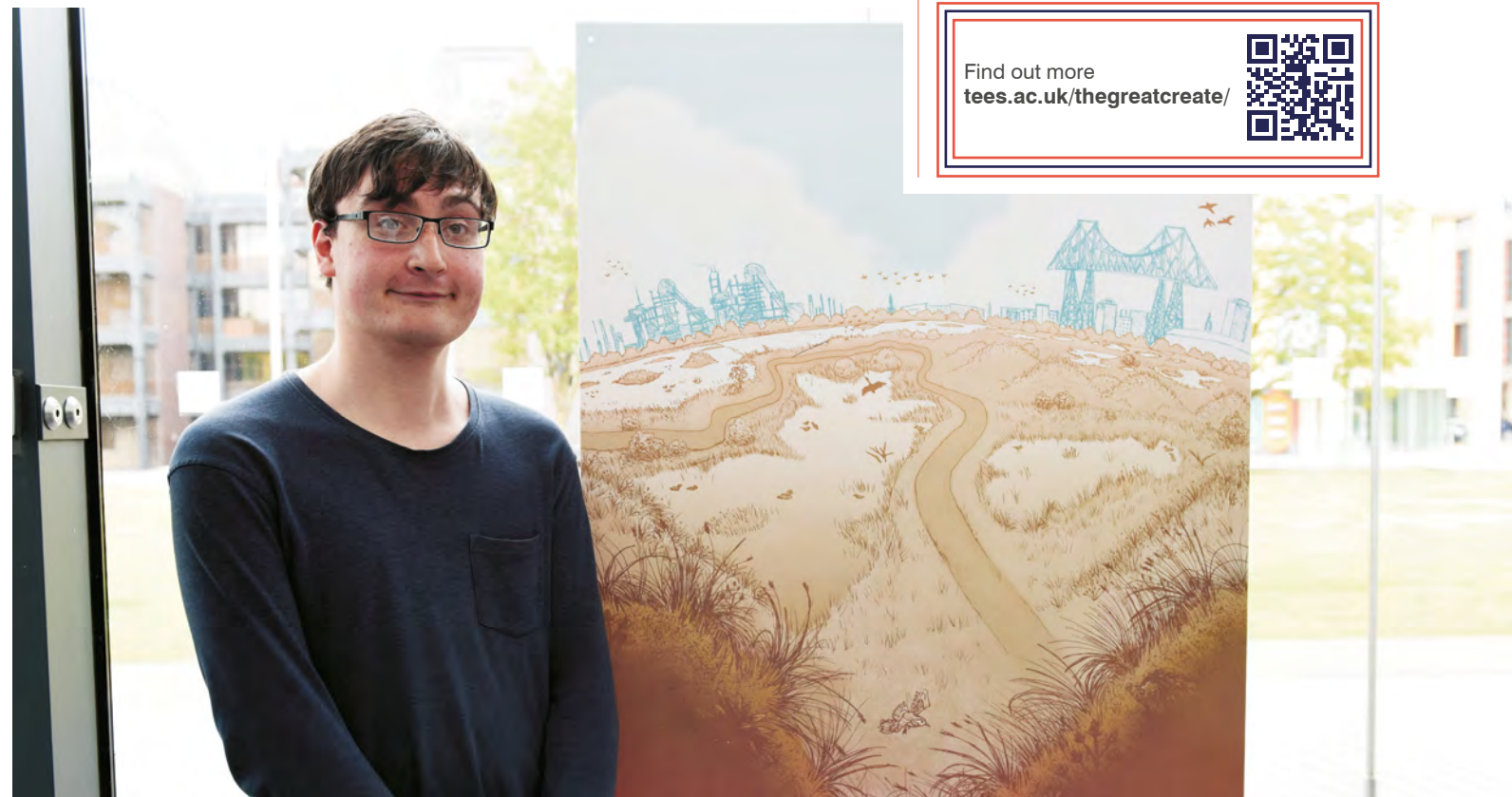
Studying graphic design at Teesside University really helped me pursue being an illustrator. Tutors encourage and inspire you to explore your work and develop as a creative. One of

my tutors, Amy Dover, is a highly accomplished artist and illustrator with a focus on nature and wildlife, so it was an amazing opportunity to learn and get guidance under someone with such expertise, passion and experience in a shared area of interest.

Since graduating, I have illustrated a children's book for a local business in Middlesbrough, Zizu's Day Care & Learning Centre, which has led to a permanent design-related role. I use so much of what I learnt at university in my role, and I hope to keep developing my illustration practice alongside it.

Teesside University has been a game changer, helping me on my creative journey through my studies and even as a graduate. If I had to give some advice to new students, I would recommend making the most of the great facilities and resources, and experiment lots. And I'd definitely recommend entering The MIMA Great Create next time.

Find out more  
[tees.ac.uk/thegreatcreate/](https://tees.ac.uk/thegreatcreate/)

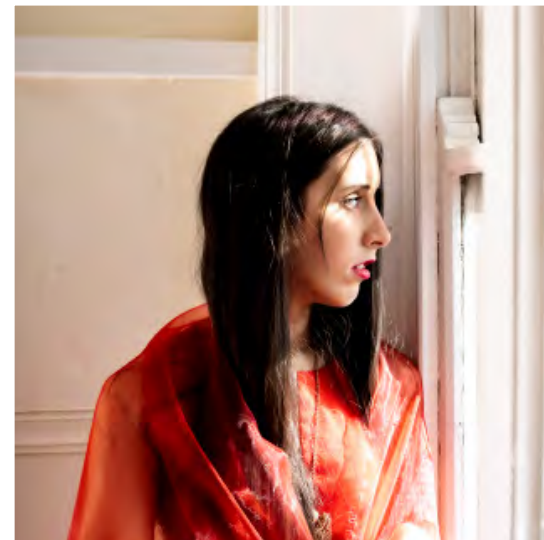
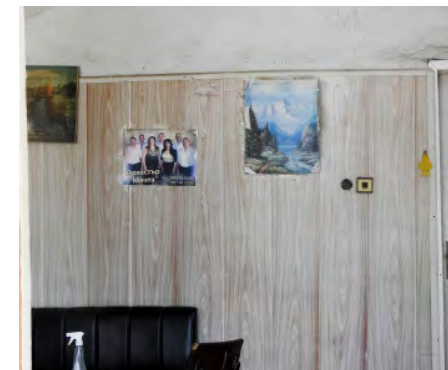




# STUDENT WORK: DEGREE SHOWCASE

Check out the work of our final year undergraduate students who are exhibiting at Framing Talent, our end of year showcase.

## framing Talent







# Creating a sustainable future

Coming soon

We're calling all budding creatives to submit an artistic piece on the theme of creating a sustainable future, to be in with a chance of winning some amazing prizes.

**Register your interest**  
[thegreatcreate@tees.ac.uk](mailto:thegreatcreate@tees.ac.uk)

## SUBJECT SPOTLIGHT: **FINE ART**

**DR PAUL STEWART**

Principal Lecturer in Fine Art



Education is the most powerful tool we have and an arts education can open up new ideas. Coming from a working class background, it was tough to break the glass ceiling, however becoming an artist allowed me to be who I wanted to be, rather than who I was told to be. I am an artist and researcher, and I make installations and works that include text, sound and karaoke. I previously worked at Tate and co-founded the Middlesbrough Art Weekender. Working on these projects were certainly highlights of my career. In 2011 I set up Alternative Art College, which

ran for three years, and I currently co-run Bad Spirits with Dawn Bothwell, supporting artists. My book, *Art, Critical Pedagogy and Capitalism*, was released in 2020 and is a radical rethinking of art making.

The fine art course is like a family. We give you independence to pursue your ideas and support you to develop the right skills. The staff have an open door policy and the studios are a safe and experimental place to be. I love my job because I get to see the artworks being made and help people with their creative passion.

Our graduates have gone on to set up studios and galleries. Some have gone into further academic study while others have jobs in galleries and as art teachers in schools and colleges. My advice for someone who is interested in applying to the School of Arts & Creative Industries is to not shy away from who you want to be. I love to see a passion that goes beyond traditional skills.

Find out more  
[tees.ac.uk/fineart](https://tees.ac.uk/fineart)





# A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A JOURNALISM GRADUATE

**LAUREN HESLOP**

Communications Assistant (Content Production)



Lauren started her career at Teesside University soon after completing her journalism studies with a first-class honours degree. Here's what a day in her life as a communications assistant (content production) looks like.

**6.45am**

A happy start to the morning as my alarm plays *Mr Blue Sky* by ELO. I have a busy day ahead, so I shower, grab breakfast and get ready for work. I've always been a big believer in pursuing a career you're passionate about, which is exactly what I did. It makes going to work every day exciting, especially in my role which always involves something different.

**8.30am**

When I get to campus, I take the stairs to the office to get my steps in. I already know I want to finish editing a video today, so I plug my headphones in and load Adobe Premiere Pro while I check my emails.

**9.00am**

Editing videos is one of the best parts of my job and I learned so much during my studies at Teesside about producing multimedia content professionally. I've already shot all the footage I need for this piece and I made a start on editing yesterday, cutting out the clips I don't need, sorting out my B-roll and putting everything in the right order. Now for the finishing touches.

**11.00am**

Or as I like to call it, my cake break. Today, I've brought a Viennese whirl (maybe doesn't count as cake, but that's

a debate for another time). I eat it while I watch my video. I've used a split screen and jazzed things up with some cool new tricks I learned at the Adobe Max virtual conference I attended last week. I do some colour correcting, add some nice lower-thirds and create the captions. Now time for a quick export and it's ready to go.

**12.00pm**

I swing by STREAT in Student Life for lunch today. I've had a productive morning so treat myself to an amazing salted caramel cookie before heading back up to the office.

**1.00pm**

It's time for a brainstorming meeting now with other members of the Communications and Alumni Development team. We're exploring ideas around the types of content we want to be producing in the upcoming months, and it's really exciting to not only make creative suggestions, but to bring these to fruition using the skills I've honed throughout my undergraduate studies and my career.

**2.00pm**

Another huge part of my role involves writing press releases, which is my next job. Community reporting has always been my thing, especially while I was studying for my journalism degree. I'm so grateful that I get to do that every day in my career now. It's also been so rewarding to have the stories I've written featured in prestigious print publications and to see the footage I've captured used in broadcast news, which were some of my goals as a student.

**4.00pm**

Now I've finished the press release and video, I'm looking for a change of pace. I load Adobe Photoshop to make a YouTube thumbnail for the video I've been working on. My responsibilities as a content producer are really varied, so I have the opportunity to write, create videos, design digital assets and do everything I enjoyed in my course. I use Premiere Pro, Photoshop and Express on a daily basis for most of these tasks, so I'm lucky to have had so much experience using the industry-standard software during my studies.

**5.00pm**

Brilliant end to the day. I get an email accepting my application to pursue postgraduate study in digital media and communications at Teesside University alongside my career. I'm so excited to get started.

**7.00pm**

Out for tea and off to a pub quiz with my friends tonight. Hopefully we'll come away with a win.

**10.30pm**

We didn't win at the quiz but had a blast. When I get home, I catch up on some TV, *Strictly Come Dancing* and *Ru Paul's Drag Race*, before heading to bed. I like to end the day by doing my Wordle. I get it in three – not bad, but I'm still chasing the dream of getting it in one. I'll try again tomorrow.

Find out more about studying journalism  
[teessi.de/ugmedia](https://teessi.de/ugmedia)



# MUSIC TO YOUR EARS

**MUSIC PRODUCTION AT THE EDINBURGH FRINGE**

**DR AL MCNICHOL**

Senior Lecturer in Music Production

Alongside his work as a senior lecturer in music production at Teesside University, Dr Al McNichol also has a long-standing sound production relationship with the Barnsley Youth Choir.

The highly-regarded choir was founded in 2009 and is currently the highest ranked choir from Great Britain in the world rankings from Interkulture (fifth in the Pop, Jazz and Gospel category), and they're well known by their outstanding appearances in the 2022 season of Britain's Got Talent (BGT).

After appearing on BGT, the choir performed a series of 18 shows at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival at the Greyfriars Kirk venue; and some street shows, which were very well received.

Al was responsible for the sound production and mixing for each show, which included managing all the logistics. Music production plays a key part in choral shows with the equipment helping to balance the sound to ensure a quality listening experience for all audience members. He works with a range of industry standard equipment

such as KV2 audio speaker systems, Neumann and AKG microphones, and Allen & Heath mixing desks for live sound.

Al said, 'Working regularly with professional performance equipment helps me to maintain my industry experience and professional practice to enhance the quality of my teaching to music production students at Teesside University. It also demonstrates one of the employment opportunities open to our music production graduates.'

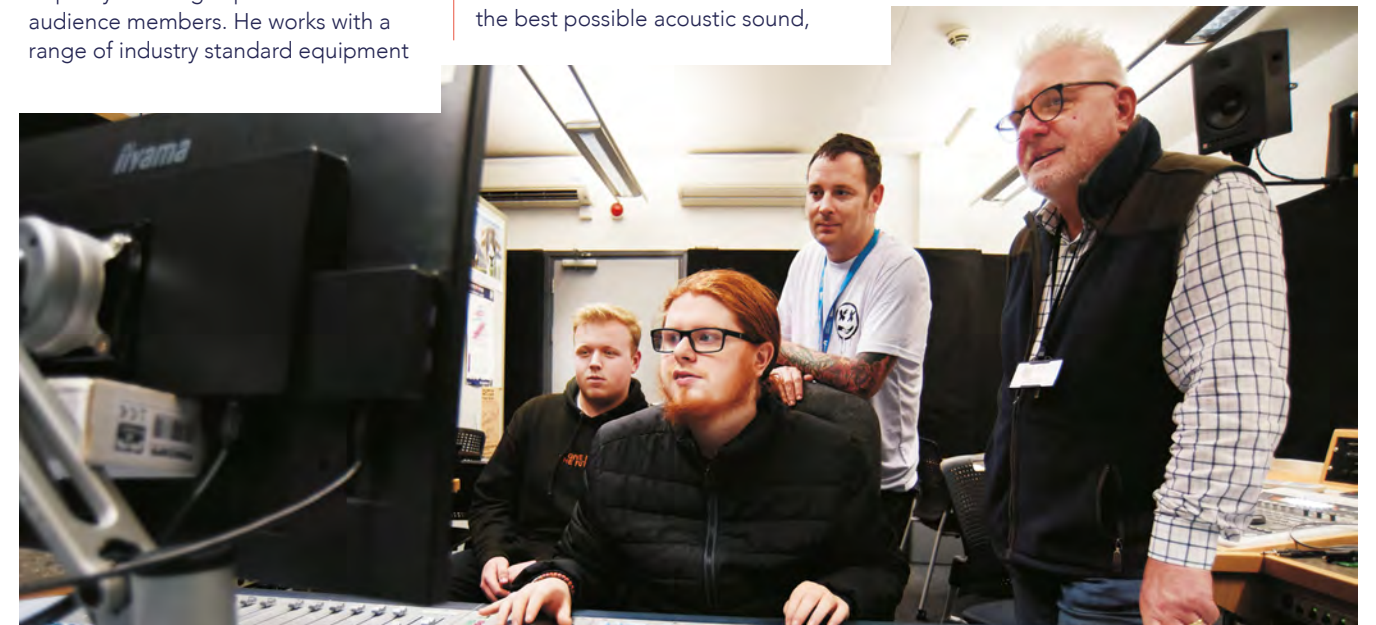
Mat Wright MBE, Artistic Director of Barnsley Youth Choir said, 'We want to provide the very best for the 500 children and young people that we serve, and the quality of sound equipment and production is integral to this work. Balancing young voices with instruments in such varied venues with vastly different acoustics presents challenges that requires careful planning and precise execution. Al's skills and range of expertise ensures that all audience members hear the best possible acoustic sound,

irrespective of where they are sat. Al's work has become integral to the sound of Barnsley Youth Choir and is far more than simply amplification.

'International audiences and critics regularly speak to me about how impressed they are with the quality and balance of the sound in performances. We are incredibly grateful and fortunate to have Al involved and would like to thank Teesside University for its support'.

If the idea of working alongside world-class musical acts in a live performance setting excites you, then our BA (Hons) Music Production course could be the one for you.

Find out more about studying music production  
[teessi.de/ugmusic](https://teessi.de/ugmusic)





# SUBJECT SPOTLIGHT: FILM AND TELEVISION PRODUCTION



“IF IT CAN BE  
WRITTEN OR  
THOUGHT, IT  
CAN BE FILMED.”  
Stanley Kubrick

The contemporary media environment is constantly evolving, and the role of film and television in our daily lives is one that should not be underestimated. In the wake of the global pandemic, the stories that we tell to communicate our experiences and to ensure human connections are more vital than ever, and it has never been more crucial to be critical of the ways we represent one another on screen (in whatever form that might take).

Film and television exist across a range of different platforms and services. Whether that is the latest true crime documentary series on Netflix, Academy Award-

winning cinema, the latest critical hit on the festival circuit, or old sitcoms that are watched repeatedly for comfort and solace. As such, the histories and futures of film and television as an industry remain central to our teaching and course content. Our film and television production degree encourages you to think critically about the ways film and television can shape our understanding of the world around us, communicating ideas around race, gender, sexuality and the politics of identity, enabling you to become creative practitioners in all aspects of screen media.

You explore your own ideas and forms of expression through a range of filmmaking and storytelling processes, from script writing and storyboarding, right through to the production of documentaries and short-form genre cinema.

**IF YOU CAN WRITE IT OR THINK IT  
... WE WANT YOU TO FILM IT.**

Take a tour of our facilities  
[teessi.de/media-music-facilities](https://teessi.de/media-music-facilities)



**CREATIVE WEEK IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR OUR STUDENTS  
TO EXPERIENCE OTHER CREATIVE DISCIPLINES AND  
CONNECT WITH THEIR PEERS THROUGH MAKING,  
EMPLOYABILITY WORKSHOPS AND EXPERIMENTATION.**

Find out more  
[teessi.de/creative-week-2023](https://teessi.de/creative-week-2023)





# WHY TAKE A PLACEMENT YEAR ON AN ARTS COURSE?

## Industry contacts

In the world of creative arts, it's helpful to have an address book of industry contacts. These could come from networking events, meetings or well-timed emails, but a placement can help you build a name for yourself in the workplace. You could gain a good reference, or even receive a job offer when you graduate.

## Enhance your CV

You get plenty of experience, putting you a step ahead of your fellow graduates when looking for jobs. At interviews, you'll be able to talk about the time you worked on a professional project with a team, rather than just giving classroom-based examples.

## Develop your portfolio

You work across a variety of projects over the year, which you can add to your portfolio showcasing your creative growth. In your final project you can use real-world understanding to explain why you have made certain decisions. Completing a work placement year allows you to develop your knowledge and skills ready to smash your final year and hopefully get an even better overall degree grade.

## Industry experience

Test drive your dream career. Get a feel for what your day-to-day life after graduation could look like. You might even find that something you

were interested in isn't actually for you, giving you time to adjust your plans before committing to a career. Taking some time abroad allows you to experience different cultures and see the world differently, so you might think about starting your career in Europe, Asia or further afield.

## Apply your learning in the real world

We all know what it's like when something you learn doesn't quite click. What better way to put academic theories to the test than applying them in the workplace? With extra support from employers and your academic school, see theory translate to action in a real-world context.



Find out more  
[tees.ac.uk/studentfutures](https://tees.ac.uk/studentfutures)



# PREPARING YOUR PORTFOLIO

Your portfolio says a lot about you. It is a pathway of your creative journey so it's important it is a true reflection of you. Here are some top tips to help make your portfolio stand out from the crowd.

## 1. PRESENTATION

Present your work as clearly as possible. Going through your work chronologically shows clear progression and development of your skills.

## 2. FIRST IMPRESSIONS COUNT

Start strong. A solid piece of work at the start sets you off on the right foot. It will also help boost your confidence in an interview as this will be the first piece of work you discuss.

## 3. CONCLUDE ON A HIGH

End on a good note. Similarly, you want to leave a lasting impression so end with a strong piece of work.

## 4. ADD CONTEXT TO YOUR WORK

Include briefs and titles. This demonstrates how you responded to the brief and creates talking points about your decision-making.

## 5. SHOW THE PROCESS

Bring along your development work. This evidences the creative decisions you made along the way. This tells us a lot about you and how you work.

## 6. LABEL YOUR FOLDER

You'd be surprised how many people forget to put their name and contact information on their portfolios. Make sure yours is clearly labelled with your name and address. That way we can make sure it gets back to you.

**MOST IMPORTANTLY RELAX. YOU'VE ALREADY DONE THE HARD WORK CREATING THESE PIECES, THIS IS JUST PUTTING THEM ALL TOGETHER. WE WANT YOU TO SUCCEED AND BECOME THE BEST CREATIVE YOU CAN BE, SO SHOW US THE REAL YOU SO WE CAN OFFER YOU THE RIGHT ADVICE.**





# WHO WILL YOU BE? WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

FIND OUT MORE AT ONE OF OUR OPEN DAYS

**SATURDAY 24 JUNE 2023**

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**SATURDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2023**

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**WEDNESDAY 18 OCTOBER 2023**

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**SATURDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2023**

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Find out more  
**[tees.ac.uk/opendays](https://tees.ac.uk/opendays)**

