

#NOWWRONGPATH

AGE: 37

JOB TITLE: DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS
AND FUTURE SKILLS

BUSINESS: CSIC



DOUGLAS MORRISON

WHAT DID YOU WANT TO DO WHEN YOU LEFT SCHOOL?

I was keen to become an architect but was put off by the amount of time I would need to study at university. I hadn't appreciated at that point that you carry on learning throughout your life (I'm still at university at 37).

WHAT DID YOU DO AFTER SCHOOL AND WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST JOB?

I left school at 15 and signed up to join the Royal Navy as a weapons engineer. I formally joined just a few days after I turned 16 and heading off to basic training in the south of England. It was a fantastic adventure and really shaped the person that I am today.

HAVE YOU CHANGED JOBS OFTEN?

I've had a few different roles since leaving school; weapons engineer, stonemason, lecturer, and managerial and leadership roles in STEM, innovation and construction. None of the roles have been particularly well planned. I have just kept pursuing areas that I've found interesting and seen where it's taken me.

HOW DID YOU GET INTO YOUR CURRENT ROLE?

I had been working on several projects with my current employer and really liked the work that they done and the values and culture they had. I seen that they were doing work that could make a real difference to the way that people lived, worked, travelled, learned etc. When an opportunity came up to join the team I applied and was fortunate enough to be offered the job. I've been here for 5 months now and I'm enjoying every minute.

DO YOU HAVE A MESSAGE TO PUPILS RECEIVING THEIR EXAM RESULTS TODAY?

It's a super anxious day for everyone achieving their results. Just remember that regardless of what results you receive today, it is what you do next that will define you. There are so many different routes to success, and so many definitions of success. Just be true to yourself, stay focused, stay motivated and never underestimate your achievements.

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