



Meghan

Went to Braidwood School: Sept 2006 to July 2011.

Job Position: *Assistant Featherist.*

Company: *Maxine's Feathers.*

1. What do you remember about Braidwood School?

I remember that when I came into school, I was very shy with little knowledge of sign language.

I have learnt so many things and it was quite challenging at times, but I made such good memories there with my friends. The best part is the sociality with friends and the support from teachers. All I did was try my best in everything I did.

2. Did you always want to be an Assistant Featherist?

No. I've got offered this job few month after my graduation from university. I had worked for the company during my university placement year. As an assistant, I am learning about inspiration for designs, the attention to detail required, management,

collaboration, how to relate to clients and much more. I am still learning and having so much fun in the process!

My dream is to be a Fashion Designer and I hope to build my brand name alongside my creative and inspirational designs.

It took me few years to realise what I wanted to do and what my purpose would be. It will take long time to achieve my goals, but I will never lose sight of my dream and my passion to be a Fashion Designer.

(IG name: meghantimminsdesigns).

3. What did you do when you left Braidwood School?

I went to Walsall College, where I studied Art & Design, followed by a Fashion & Textiles course.

In 2015, I went to University of Central Lancashire to study for a BA (Hons) in Fashion Design (With Sandwich Year). It was a hard decision to make but I am so glad that I did it.

After completing my course, I got the job offer to work at Maxine's Feathers.

In my own time, I am doing what I love to do. I develop new ideas and designs and create garments for each of my project.

4. What is the best thing about being an Assistant Featherist?

Maxine's Feathers make bespoke feather costumes for stage, theatre, tv and music performances, and I love to see our work in live shows and in photos of the events. The items created at Maxine's Feathers are handmade for each client rather than mass produced which I find extremely rewarding.

It's wonderful to be part of such a hardworking, supportive team.

5. What is the worst thing about being an Assistant Featherist?

What I find most difficult is the limited amount of time we have during busy times of the year, especially Pantomime season! Sometimes we work overtime until after 11pm each day just to meet deadlines. I have found that thinking about the amount of work we need to do can become very overwhelming, which leaves me feeling panicky and stressed.

6. What advice would you give a pupil at Braidwood School about life and work?

Take your time and believe in yourself.

Don't let someone decide your future. Decide for yourself.

As a deaf person, I know that there will be many difficulties and challenges to overcome but I want to show that having a disability has not stopped me doing what I love, and that there is always a way to make it work. I also want to demonstrate to those who think it is impossible, or to those who don't have the confidence, that it can be done. Never give up!