

LIFE AFTER TANFIELD



NAME **LAURA KAY FORSTER**

PUPIL AT TANFIELD FROM 1992 TO 1997

MY LIFE AFTER LEAVING TANFIELD

After I finished Tanfield School in 1997, leaving with 5 GCSEs grade A-C, I went on to Durham New College where I began A Levels in Psychology, Sociology and Human Biology with a resit in Maths GCSE.

I quickly realised this was not for me and left, deciding to continue working until the following September when I would begin GNVQ Health & Social Care at Derwentside College. I passed this with distinction after 3 years (I think). I then worked full time for a few years as a dispensing assistant in my Dad's pharmacy (where I had worked from the age of 13 – needing a work permit from Tanfield School) before deciding to carry on my studies at Northumbria University, where I began Adult Nursing.

I qualified as a nurse in 2006 and started my career in neurosurgery where I have worked for 16 years now. I returned to university, this time at Sunderland in 2018 to complete clinical skills and I plan to return to undertake prescribing.

I thoroughly enjoyed all of my studies, from Burnopfield Primary School to Tanfield School, right the way through to the present. I love my job at the RVI in Newcastle and am privileged to work alongside an incredible team with an amazing reputation. I have now taken on a new role as Clinical Nurse Specialist for Parkinson's Disease.

(photo – Laura and a colleague working on the Coronavirus ward)