



## Success Stories at Combe Pafford School

Charles Peter Hutchins (known as Charlie)



Charlie was one of the youngest pupils to start at Combe Pafford School at just over 6 years old! He progressed steadily through school until year 10, when through hard work and persistence he was moved on to do GCSE Courses. During Key Stage 4 Charlie continued to make great progress in his academic studies and completed a successful work experience placement at Tesco's in Babbacombe. This opportunity gave Charlie a taste for the world of work and he was adamant that he did not want to go to College to undertake a vocational course. Although he wanted to work Charlie needed to add to his qualifications to put himself in a better position to find employment and so he started on the PEPP course at Paignton Community College.

During the year Charlie gained further qualifications at Level 1 including Functional Skills Maths. As part of the course he started a Work Experience trial for 4 weeks at Shiphay Spar and Post Office, which was extended to 2 days a week due to his good work ethic and attitude. Charlie continued with his placement during the school holidays and was steadily becoming part of the Spar team. As his year at PCC ended Charlie considered his options and decided to return to Combe Pafford to join the new Sixth Form with its core aim of getting into work.

It soon became clear that Charlie, as well as working hard in his academic studies, was able to demonstrate all of the work based skills and qualities that employers desire (punctuality, strong work ethic, honesty, politeness etc). Indeed, he was so reliable that he was asked to do two paper rounds at the Spar! By January Charlie had passed his Functional Skills English at Level 1, opening the door to the world of apprenticeships. At the same time, Charlie's superb attitude led to Chris, his Manager, approaching the school about taking Charlie on as a retail apprentice. Spar linked up with Petroc College and an Intermediate Apprenticeship in Retail Operations was arranged.

Charlie is now working (and earning!) and studying towards a Level 2 NVQ in Retail. He continues to do two paper rounds each morning and has to do occasional overtime! We still keep in contact with Charlie and we will be looking forward to seeing him at the InterRailing residential in the summer!

### School History – Charlie Hutchins:

Preston Primary Assessment unit aged 5-6 years.

Combe Pafford School aged 6-16 years.

Paignton Community College PEPP Course aged 16-17 years.

Combe Pafford Sixth Form Age 17 till Easter 2014.



If you would like to share your success story please contact our school careers adviser. We would love to hear from you!

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