## Laura Elizabeth Blow

Born: 22<sup>nd</sup> February 1988.

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## **Academic Details**

2008-2009

Leeds Metropolitan University/ Harrogate College Harrogate, North Yorkshire. BA HONS Photography and Digital Imaging, 2:1

2006-2008

Leeds Metropolitan University/ Harrogate College Harrogate, North Yorkshire. HND Photography and Digital Imaging. Distinction.

2004-2006 John Leggott College Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire

A-Levels; Photography grade B Media grade B English Literature grade C General Studies grade C

1999-2004

St, Bede's Catholic School Scunthorpe North Lincolnshire GCSE;

English Language grade B English Literature grade B Religious Studies grade B

Religious Studies grade B
Biology grade B
Physics grade C
German grade C
Chemistry grade D
Maths grade D

I.C.T Pass at GNVQ Level.

## Work experience

2007-present Thorntons PLC

Title and job details:

Senior sales/ third key holder.

As Senior Sales I am expected to work alongside the manager and assistant manager of the store to work as a team and independently in different aspects of the job such as general running of the store, opening and closing the store, accounts, administration, external and corporate sales. I have worked to a level six which enables me to have managerial responsibilities. I have also embarked on retail courses ( You are the difference and Taste the difference) which enable my sales and customer service skills.

2005-2006 BNM Retail

Title and job details:

General shop assistant.

Duties included shelf filling, helping customers, stock takes, and general maintenance of the shop floor and warehouse.

2003-2005 Berkley Hotel

Title and job details:

Waitress/ kitchen staff.

Duties included serving large numbers of customers with food and drink working within a large team. Cleaning and general hygiene of the kitchen. Dealing with large events such as weddings and corporate meetings.

2004-2005

Balloons Galore, card shop.

Title and job details:

Shop assistant and event organiser.

My duties included working alongside a large team in the running of a successful card shop. I was also a part of the events team which planned weddings and corporate events as well as floor plans and fittings of decorations for the events.

**Leadership**: I have worked alongside many different teams of people and also individually. All of the jobs that I have previously had and currently have all consist of leadership working in a team as well as independently to finding solutions to problems and queries within the working environment. Since studying Photography at BA (HONS) level I have gained a lot of leadership as it involves organising, shoots, equipment, locations, studios, models, assistants and large groups of people at events such as weddings.

**Teamwork:** In all my jobs I have worked alongside a team of people ranging between 3 up to 100. When working in the retail environment it is important to work and communicate together efficiently to carry out day to day duties and the solving of problems and creating a solution. This is applicable to my current job, as I hold the senior sales position and this involves me to work

closely with the store manager and assistant manager, as well as the other employees within the store.

**Communication**: Communication is important in any profession and since my time in retail I have learnt how to communicate with many different types of people and I have communicated with people on a face to face basis, dealing with customers complaints and queries, as well as using the phone to contact head office or anyone who may be of importance.

I have a GNVQ in I.C.T and this course helped me to understand many different aspects of computing and communications. I learnt how to use spreadsheets, databases, email, websites and website creation as well as software.

**Motivation**: I am a very motivated and enthusiastic person in both my work and studies. I am passionate about my job and believe that motivation encourages a healthy relationship in the work place and also a personal healthy mind. In my studies I have to meet tight deadlines and motivation helps me to produce work on time for my degree and clients.

**Interests:** I have a keen interest for photography and have studied it for the past five years and have recently finished my degree in the area. Although at the moment my photographic interest is study based I would like to pursue a career in the area in the future.

I also like to keep fit and attend yoga classes twice a week. I enjoy yoga as it keeps me physically fit and mentally, as it is a great way to relieve stress as it involves meditation and exercise.

English Literature has always been fond to me, I love to indulge in a good novel and my favourite author is Bret Easton Ellis alongside many other Post modern novelists. A also enjoy poetry both writing and reading, as to me it is inspirational and creative and inspires me in my work.

I love to travel and explore new places and my most memorable to date is the Sahara Desert and within the next few years I intend on visiting Japan and South Korea.

I like to learn about new cultures and languages in my spare time and currently I am self teaching Japanese.

## References:

Helen Danson (Manager, Thorntons PLC)

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