



## PROFILE

My digital health career didn't get off to the best start. I've always been more of a words person than a numbers person, and in school I preferred essay-based subjects like English. I abandoned everything STEM-related after GCSEs and studied English Literature and French at the University of Manchester.

When I left university, I managed to get a 4-month internship at the University of Manchester as a Communications and Events Intern at Connected Health Cities, a health informatics research group. At first I felt totally out of my depth, as I had never heard of health informatics and everyone seemed to speak in technical terms and acronyms. I thought that everyone else was a real scientist, whereas I was an English-studying imposter!

Then I started to really enjoy my work and realised that a) my communication skills were valuable, even when applied in a science context and b) you can be a 'words person' and still understand and be interested in science. What I love about my job is how varied it is. In a day I might be writing a newspaper article, designing graphics and editing CSS code on the website. I was lucky enough to have my contract extended and 10 months later, I'm still here.

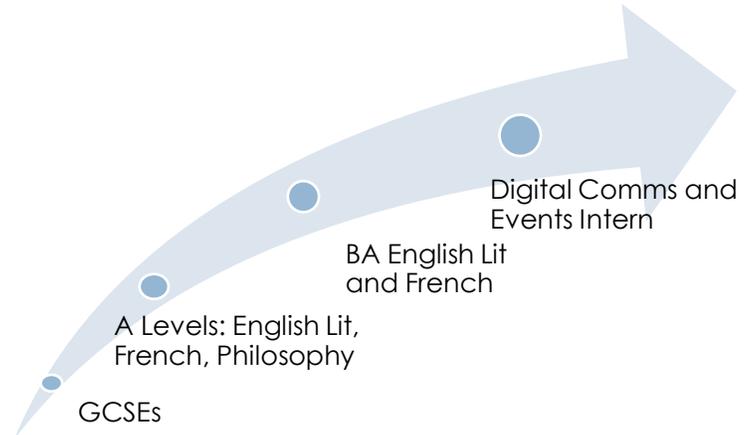
## SOCIAL MEDIA



<https://www.linkedin.com/in/ninahayesthompson/>

## Nina Hayes-Thompson Digital Communications and Events Intern Connected Health Cities

### EDUCATION



### WORK EXPERIENCE

**Connected Health Cities** Digital Comms and Events Intern

**Head of Zeus** Intern

**British Council** English Language Assistant

### Nina's top tips

- Don't put yourself in a box: you don't have to only choose one thing to enjoy.
- Study what you love: you'll be more interested, the hard work will feel more bearable and your marks will be higher.
- 'English Teacher' is not the only job available to English graduates. Unless, of course, that's what you want to do.

### Interesting facts

- As part of her degree, Nina spent a year in France teaching English to primary school kids. Pretentious? Oui. Fun? Very.
- Nina once got insulted by the Westboro Baptist Church on Twitter for being 'disobedient'. What a character reference.