

ALUMNI – Matt ‘Spence’ Spencer

When I left Kenilworth School I took some valued advice from the staff there and chose to focus directly on a career path of Journalism. I therefore studied Journalism at the University of Winchester, and left with a very open mind for where my first shift could be. Since leaving education I've been a freelance broadcast journalist with ITN. There I've previously worked with ITN Productions producing coverage for clients such as the Independent and the Telegraph. The whole while though, I've been covering breaking news.



Working on daily news bulletins for Channel 5 News as an Assistant News Editor, and in recent years, acting as the Digital Editor. It's taken me to a variety of communities across the UK; meeting political leaders, self-named celebs and being invited into the homes of some of Britain's most-inspirational people. The elderly, the carers, the charity workers. I've toured our NHS hospitals, and had the chance to highlight social issues, such as mental health and social care, that mean a lot to me and our audience. They even flew me out to Macedonia for 24 hours during the desperate journey across Europe made by refugees. I work a slightly different role with Channel 4 News, producing bespoke journalism for their vast Facebook, Twitter and YouTube audience. C4 News are arguably leading the online editorial race, with multiple awards for coverage stemming from their breathtaking reporting in Aleppo, to the rise of Donald Trump. I recommend watching some of their online output whatever age you are. I've also popped my head into BBC Cov and Warks, BBC Watchdog and Good Morning Britain, and recently have found a mentor in BBC World Service's Tim Franks. For now though I've found a home at ITN, and due to that a home in London. It's a little busier than the greenery of Kenilworth Castle, but I've grown used to it, living with friends I made and grew up with at Castle Sixth Form.

At the moment it is definitely a lifestyle choice in that I am out filming, producing and editing all hours of the day and night as the moment. Although I'm not a print journalist, every day I rely on storytelling and structure. A comprehension of what I'm seeing and being told, evaluating what it means on the surface and what's not being said. I think that's all come through an enjoyment of English at school.

