



ABOUT ME

My name is Alison.
I used to go to Headlands and now I own a property business in Portugal.

ABOUT MY JOB

I live in Portugal in an up-and-coming tourist area, and take care of people's second homes and rental properties.

I inspect the properties, handle the rentals, organise all the housekeeping and laundry, deal with guests and resolve all problems on behalf of the owners.

We also arrange renovations and oversee building and interior design projects.

I am very busy in the summer, but out of season, life is more relaxed.

SCHOOL RESULTS

I left Headlands in 1986. I honestly can't remember my results, but they were nothing special, 7 O Levels and 2 A Levels, mediocre to poor grades.

FAVOURITE MEMORIES

My favourite memories are of excellent teachers who inspired me to be what I wanted to be, and more importantly WHO I wanted to be.

WHAT I DID NEXT

I went to University to train as a primary school teacher, which I was for 14 years before starting my own business – three years in the UK, eight years in Portugal and three years in Malaysia.

I was head of the junior school when I left the profession to do something different.

MY ADVICE TO STUDENTS

Follow your heart and study what you enjoy, ultimately this will lead to working in an area you enjoy.

Always strive for more, apply for that job you think is out of reach, don't be embarrassed to stretch for what you want and what makes you happy. Don't settle.

Be aware there are jobs out there you will never have heard of, but you will find them if you study what you enjoy.

The world is a big place, full of amazing opportunities, but they won't land on your doorstep, you have to go and get them!

