

Hannah Pepper

(Attended 1983 – 1992)

Further studies:

Bristol University for degrees in Biochemistry (1996), Dentistry (1999) and Medicine (2007), Member of Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh (2001), member of Royal College of Surgeons of England (2011), Diploma in Clinical Research (Newcastle University 2013), Certificate in Medical Education (Bristol University 2016).

Career history:

I initially studied dentistry at Bristol University taking an intercalated degree in Biochemistry as part of that course, and then developed an interest in head and neck surgery and took the decision to train in medicine after working in surgical units in Melbourne, Newcastle and Bristol. I then worked as a junior doctor and completed my core surgical training in 2012. I have since worked in oral surgery in primary and secondary care. I am involved in teaching, research and examining for the Edinburgh Royal College of Surgeons. I have worked in Bangalore, India with the Smile train charity for cleft surgery. My most recent passion is trying to get some funding for trips to Greece to carry out oral surgery in the many refugee camps where oral infection and pain is a huge problem.

Favourite memory of your time at the school

I have many fond memories of school. I particularly enjoyed the school productions, the Christmas fair, and the hours spent in the art room.

Most useful lesson while at school

I hugely appreciated the emphasis on the environment and nature as a way to more fully understand our place in this world.

What have you taken with you into your life and work from the school

I believe that the school gave me tremendous confidence and a greater understanding of the breadth of talent and skills that can be appreciated in each individual. I believe this has helped me as a doctor and a surgeon.

If you could do it again what would you do differently?

The only thing I would change is that I would have stayed in Edinburgh and my children could then have gone to the school!