

# Benjamin Youell - Curriculum Vitae

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## Education

**News Associates – London: National Council for the Training of Journalists (2015-2016):**

Achieved gold standard in the NCTJ qualification and 100 words-per-minute shorthand.

**King’s College London (2012-2015):** History BA – Achieved grade 2:1.

**Merchant Taylors’ School for Boys, Crosby (1998-2012):**

A level Results: History (A\*), Economics (A), English (A), Biology at AS level (B).

GCSE Results: 5 A\*s including English Literature and Language, 4 As including Mathematics, 1 B.

## Employment

- **Daily Star Online** — News Reporter — November 2017-present
  - Sourced, wrote and uploaded seven stories on average per day in a high-pressure environment.
  - Contributed exclusive content weekly including a landmark interview with Alfie Evans’ father.
  - Fluent in Google Analytics, Parse.ly and Google Trends, enhancing my SEO knowledge.
  - Learned various software packages including Photoshop and Content Management System.
  - Had numerous exclusive stories taken and run by the paper as page leads.

## Work Experience

- **Thomson Reuters**
  - Worked on the commodities desk, analysing price fluctuation patterns in several major markets.
  - Worked closely with the TV production team, undergoing on-camera training and video editing.
- **BBC**
  - Appeared on primetime television during the 2015 Election broadcast, offering voting analysis.
- **The Independent**
  - Rotated between news, sport and travel, producing content and subbing copy against the clock.
  - Assisted with a tax evasion research investigation relating to FTSE 100 companies, in co-operation with the London Evening Standard.
- **South West Londoner (Online news publication)**
  - Placement for nine-month period alongside NCTJ qualification, sourcing, writing and editing.
- **Sportsbeat (Sport, news and consultancy agency)**
  - Compiled on-the-whistle match reports, developing speed while maintaining accuracy.

## More personal information

- Co-Captained my school’s team for the **Bank of England Target 2.0 Competition** (London, 2011-2012).
  - Managed a small team that broke through to the North of England finals.
  - Developed my confidence as a speaker/presenter (established previously in school debating).
- Co-Founded “**Forum**” society in university, a debating platform that thrived and still exists today.
  - Involved leading a team encouraging others to embrace public speaking.
- Reached national finals of **European Youth Parliament** debating competition (Durham, 2011-12).
  - Enhanced research skills and teamwork, as we worked against the clock to meet deadlines.
- Won a **News Associates quark-based editing competition**, which reinforced the importance and benefits of being willing to change copy last minute; ensuring content was delivered without sacrificing accuracy or quality.
- Competed in **regional drama competitions** between the ages of 7-16, winning on several occasions.
- Represented King’s College London in **rowing** and **football** at various levels of competition.

## Referees

1. Levi Winchester, Production Editor, Telephone Number: 0208 612 7757. Email: [Levi.Winchester@Express.co.uk](mailto:Levi.Winchester@Express.co.uk)
2. James Toney, Managing Editor, Telephone Number: +44 (0) 870 445 0157. Email: [jtoney@sportsbeat.co.uk](mailto:jtoney@sportsbeat.co.uk)