



# FLIGHT LIEUTENANT GARY THOMPSON

(Paterson 2003)

During his final year at Aylesbury Grammar School (studying Physics, Maths, History and Music at A level), Gary was awarded a **Royal Air Force 6<sup>th</sup> Form Scholarship**. He is now a RAF Captain, flying the Airbus A330 Voyager aircraft (air to air refuelling and transport).

*“Knowing that I was going to join the RAF after 6<sup>th</sup> Form allowed me to focus on skill sets that would support my chosen future career. Many teachers, including Mr Sugg and Dr Blyth were instrumental in helping me understand the laws of physics which I use every day.*”

*“Although some of my fondest memories at AGS are from the Sports field, the teachers in the Science department were critical in helping me to achieve my goal of joining and being successful in the RAF.”*



Gary has been in the RAF since 2005. He has flown on the front line in Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya and The Falklands. His work has taken him around the world to destinations including Malaysia, South Africa, Middle East and South America.

*“After completing RAF Officer Training, the next step was to learn to fly. This is where the education that I had been given at AGS gave me a head start. Principles of flight, mass and balance, performance of aircraft were all made that little bit easier with the knowledge gained at AGS.*”

*“The best thing about being a pilot in the RAF is that every day is completely different. My job varies from conducting air to air refuelling over areas of conflict on one day, to flying troops to various parts of the world the next. It also allows me to work with a very professional, fun, loyal and energetic group of people.”*

“I thank AGS for giving me the stepping stones that have supported me in achieving this.”