



ELLIE COBURN



BIC 2019 LEAVER

**L3 BAKING AND PATISSERIE
(SERC)**

HARE COTTAGE BAKERY

**EAT - ELLIE'S ARTISAN
TAKEAWAY**



MY TIME AT BLACKWATER

I started my post primary education in Blackwater IC after leaving primary school with absolutely no idea what I would do when I would leave to start a career. I always had an interest in cooking and travel so with the encouragement of Mrs Love I decided I would study Spanish with a view to one day opening a restaurant somewhere in Spain. I really enjoyed my education and the whole school experience. I made great some friends at school I also benefited from the guidance and support of the teachers.

Opening a business, you need many skills and three particular teachers/mentors who were instrumental in my career progression were Mrs Mallon, Mrs McVeigh and Mrs McBrearty.

WHERE AM I NOW?

I was furloughed twice during the lockdowns while employed full time as a baker and pastry chef. Indeed, I still would be furloughed if I hadn't taken the decision to leave to open my own business. Only takeaway businesses are allowed to trade in the food sector at the moment, so I have opened a bakery and takeaway café style business. I took the lease on a unit at Downpatrick Business Centre and after a frantic two months of fitting out I opened just before the Christmas holidays.

If I could pass on any advice to other pupils I would say please work as hard as you can in school to achieve the best grades you can. I have my English and Maths (hooray thanks Mrs McVeigh). I arrive at my work at 06:00 and finish at 16:00, yes very long hours but it is my business, and its success or failure is within my control.



Unit 23 Belfast Business Park, if you would like to try my cakes, traybakes and takeaway menu.

