

## M25 SpeedMeet

August 2025



- **Who are you, where are you based and what do you do?**

I'm Leah Gulley and I am an Academic Liaison Librarian at Buckinghamshire New University. I am currently based in Uxbridge, but spend time traveling between our High Wycombe and Aylesbury campuses. I develop information literacy instruction for Nursing & Midwifery students and I also was responsible for daily operations and collection development for the Aylesbury campus library.

- **What do you most enjoy about your job?**

I enjoy the varied aspects of my daily role. I really value the freedom and flexibility to step into roles that I haven't had the opportunity to fill so far. This flexibility has allowed me to zoom out of my current role and hone in on career prospects and skills that I would like to further develop.

- **What motivates you in your work?**

I am motivated by the stories of other librarians who are more experienced. I really love hearing the ways in which other library professionals have taken a meandering path to roles that they really love. It is always really encouraging – and inspiring even – to hear about

projects that other university libraries have undertaken or initiatives that have been spearheaded by library teams. It motivates me to continue growing my own skillset and taking extra opportunities to develop skills that can further enhance the experiences of my colleagues and the students we serve.

- **How has the M25 Consortium supported you in your career?**

M25 Consortium has been invaluable to me in my career so far. The M25 Consortium has provided a gateway into the sector outside of my university that I really value. I greatly appreciate the additional trainings and events where I get to learn from and connect with other motivated professionals.

- **What would surprise people to know about you?**

I used to be a choir teacher! I have a degree in music and my first career was teaching ages 3 – 18 general music, music history, and choir. After leaving that job, I spent a few years working in a public library where my teaching and music skills were really utilised for storytime and other library events! There was some really nice overlap between my previous career and my current one in that job.

- **Complete the sentence: If I wasn't working in a library I would be..... because .....**

If I wasn't working in a library I would be a travel blogger because I love to see new places and curating perfect itineraries. While I don't love the idea of being an "influencer", I think I would really enjoy the perks of being a travel blogging like flying first-class and whatever else travel bloggers do.