

ALEXANDER CURWOOD

LONDON

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Profile

I am an aspiring Junior Software Developer. Studying physics and mathematics throughout my education, I have a natural aptitude and interest in problem solving and analytical disciplines. This interest motivated me to study Computer Science and experience software development as a part of my degree programme. Software development allows me to capitalise on my natural curiosity, problem solving, and collaborative skills by creating meaningful solutions for businesses and consumers. After graduating, I enrolled in the School of Code to continue developing my skills in an accelerated learning environment and best prepare myself for a Junior Software Developer role.

I am curious; willing to understand any problem or new concept given to me; team-ready; eager to ask for and receive feedback from my peers and superiors alike; and honest; able to identify my weakest areas and ask for assistance with humility. My training at the School of Code, professional experience, and education, have prepared me for intense learning environments: adapting quickly to a company's technical and team infrastructure. These factors uniquely position me to rapidly deliver value as a Junior Software Developer.

Skills

JavaScript | React | Next.js | TypeScript | HTML5 | CSS3 | Express | PostgreSQL | Git/GitHub | Figma

Professional Experience

SCHOOL OF CODE, SKILLS BOOTCAMP, BIRMINGHAM

FEB-JUNE 2024

- **Research and Planning:** I gained experience conducting and analysing user research, defining end user profiles and stories, and designing and wireframing solutions accordingly.
- **Learning Mindset:** I was exposed to new frameworks and concepts through the bootcamp's 'weekly internship' structure, quickly learning and applying them practically within hackathons and projects.
- **Problem Solving:** I refined my approach to problem solving by explicitly defining stakeholder values and goals and breaking down solutions into minimum viable products with clearly defined sub-steps.
- **Working Collaboratively:** I practiced pair and mob programming daily, utilising a driver/ navigator relationship to share and evaluate ideas. I also gained an appreciation of working in teams with diverse backgrounds and perspectives to consider all possible aspects of a problem and its potential solutions.
- **Feedback:** I gained exposure to giving, receiving, and acting on feedback as often as possible, as well as tailoring feedback to the specific environment and individual. I regularly reached out to my peers and tutors to find specific areas of weakness to iterate and improve upon.
- **Development Pipelines:** I implemented agile methodologies within my projects, receiving feedback and iterating as early and often as possible. I also utilised continuous integration and deployment pipelines, using GitHub actions and Git Hooks to test on commit/ merge whilst considering cyber-security concerns.

KB TECH LTD, WORK EXPERIENCE PLACEMENT, KENT

JULY 2021

- **Learning Mindset:** I was exposed to and learned new concepts/ frameworks such as Dot.Net and Object-Oriented Programming. I then applied these practically within my own Blackjack application.
- **Feedback:** I observed the way the development, marketing and management teams gave and received feedback.
- **Development Pipelines:** I learned the fundamentals of cloud computing by observing the Continuous Integration and Deployment pipelines within Microsoft Azure from local development to production deployment.

LOVE TO TUTOR, KENT

2019 – 2021

- **Problem Solving and Feedback:** I utilised my creativity and problem solving to find ways of communicating complex ideas and providing feedback to younger students, tailoring my approach to each student individually.

- **Customer Communication:** I directly interfaced with the parents of my students, clearly explaining my methodology and motivations whilst considering their values and goals and applying their feedback.

Projects

SPOTIFY PROJECT

- **Problem:** The Spotify app does not allow for functionality requested by users.
- **Solution:** Conduct research regarding which features users would like. Create an external web application which, after authentication, allows the user to utilise these features.
- **Tech stack:** React, Next.js, OAuth2.0, Spotify API, JavaScript, CSS
- **Research:** I conducted and analysed a survey for Spotify users to create a prioritised list of features missing from the Spotify app.
- **Planning:** I researched using the Spotify API documentation to construct a thorough plan of how to implement each feature within my application.
- **Feedback:** I conducted end-user testing after implementing every feature, and responded to feedback by iterating on my application, and adapting plans for future features.
- **Retrospective:** In future I will wireframe and test my UX/UI earlier in my development pipeline.

Education

DURHAM UNIVERSITY 2020 – 2023
BSC IN NATURAL SCIENCES, WITH CREDITS IN COMPUTER SCIENCE, PHILOSOPHY, AND PHYSICS
Upper Second-Class honours.

DARTFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOL 2013 – 2020
INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE DIPLOMA PROGRAMME
I achieved the maximum point total of 45.
Higher Level: Mathematics, Physics, Economics; Standard Level: English, Music, Japanese.

Interests and Languages

Basketball | Football | Literature | Gaming | Debating | Philosophy | Artificial Intelligence |

Japanese: Elementary Proficiency