

Alex Blanden

Curriculum Vitae

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Personal Profile

I am an IT technician with 4 years of experience looking to develop a career in software and web development for which I have been studying for the past 2 years. I have worked in a variety of settings, both customer facing, and in a school environment which have helped develop my communication skills and an ability to work under pressure while remaining professional and friendly. I look forward to deepening my understanding of software development in my next endeavour.

Education

Microsoft

MTA

Mar 2022 - Mar 2022

Introduction to Programming using HTML and CSS - Pass

Codecademy

Certification

Mar 2021 - Feb 2022

Full Stack Engineer Career Path - Pass

Learn C# - Pass

Learn Java - Pass

Learn PHP - Pass

Learn Python 3 - Pass

Learn JQuery - Pass

Greenwich University

Undergraduate Degree

Sep 2011 - Jun 2012

BA (Hons) Music Technology - 2:1

Greenwich University

Higher National Diploma

Sep 2009 - Jun 2011

Music Technology - Merit

St Anselm's Catholic Secondary School

GCSE

Sep 1998 - Jul 2000

Maths - C

English Literature - A

English Language - B

Double Award Science - B/B

Assorted others including Business Studies, History and Religious Education - B-C

Work Experience

2018 – Present

Network Technician – St Francis Catholic Primary School

My current role sees me oversee the day-to-day application of ICT provision for a primary school of over 400 students and 50 members of staff.

My wide-ranging responsibilities include the maintenance of both hardware and software, from the domain servers to the children's laptops. I act as a point of contact both for the school's Network Contractor and for the Teachers and Leadership team when problems arise. I maintain the school's website – a vital point of communication with the parents of our pupils and I recently oversaw the complete redesign of the website, helping to create a clean, modern and efficient user experience, that has been heavily praised by the Southwark Diocese of which the school a member.

Since I began in my role at St Francis I've helped modernise the school's ICT provision, moving from an old on premises network towards a fully cloud based solution. During the COVID pandemic lockdown, I worked hard to implement a comprehensive home learning solution, enabling teachers to make use of Google's Workspace for education. I took decisive action in a time of crisis and earned the full trust of the school's leadership. I remain the sole super admin for the school and am solely responsible for its continued use and operation.

As is common in schools I have grown to fulfil many secondary roles, which involve safeguarding the children and communicating with parents, jobs that require complete professionalism.

Over the course of my 20 year working life I have occupied a number of roles including bar work, office and admin and construction, for brevity I have only included work experience most relevant to the role.

Practical Skills

Quick learner - As a slightly more mature student I have developed a life - long love of learning, always looking for opportunities to take initiative and stretch myself.

Effective communicator - The workplace sees me communicate with many groups including teachers, parents and fellow network managers in a timely, concise and professional manner.

Team player - My current workplace often requires me to be adaptable and help in the smooth running of a number of areas of the school. Collaboration with lots of different teams is expected in a school environment and has been an enjoyable aspect of the job.

Organised – Currently working full time, studying for the Codecademy qualifications and playing an active role in family life requires excellent time management, ability to meet deadlines and efficient working practices.

Analytical – Whilst studying I have often reflected on my learning journey, identified weaker areas or gaps in knowledge and have taken the steps to rectify these by planning independent study outside of the course directive.

Problem solver – Studying and working has required me to 'think outside of the box', tackle problems from different angles and keep persevering when something does not work first time.

Interests & Achievements

I have a keen interest in health and nutrition and like to exercise regularly. Mostly I enjoy spending time with my 7-year-old daughter. At the moment, we like playing computer games and learning the piano together.

Transferable Skills

Team player, Good communicator, Problem solver, Technical, Disciplined, Takes initiative, Flexible, Enthusiastic

Referees

Lauren Herron – Deputy Headteacher, St Francis Catholic School

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