COMPUTER SCIENCE

LINKING COMPUTER SCIENCE WITH CAREERS

2019/20
ABOUT SUCCESS AT SCHOOL

Success at School is a national careers website for students aged 11-19, as well as their teachers, careers advisors, parents and other influencers. Young people can learn about their future career options through no-nonsense careers advice related to their own experiences. As well as covering topics such as career paths, industries, apprenticeships, university and employability skills, we connect schools and students to employers and universities through opportunities on our site and our interactive forums. Millions of young people and their influencers have visited our site for advice and information to help them plan for the future. Go to successatschool.org for more information.

ABOUT OUR SPONSOR

The Royal Air Force is an organisation that makes a difference. Whether it’s in the skies above Britain or in airspace around the world, it is our job to protect the United Kingdom against any form of threat. Our aircraft aren’t our only line of defence. In the 21st century, cyberspace and communications have become just as important to help fulfil this role. The RAF needs these skills more than ever before. We look for people who are passionate and excited about being part of a bigger organisation. Everyone in every role is vital to keeping our aircraft ready and flying 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

We have more than 20 different apprenticeship opportunities – and not just in IT and communications roles. We offer a guaranteed contract of employment from the moment you start your first day of training.
As you approach the important decision of which subjects to study in the next phase of your education, central to your thinking should be the role you eventually want to fill in the world of work, the type and level of qualifications you need to support this ambition and the best route for you to achieve them. However, don’t forget to consider which subjects most excite you, because most of us do best when studying the things we enjoy.

There are many important life questions you may not know the answers to right now, but this booklet aims to make those relating to your education easier to address. Do you want to go on to do A-levels, and then a degree? Does the career path you’re interested in require this? Is there an apprenticeship available to attain the skills you need?

Skills in computer science are now as important as those in maths and English, and the need for computer literacy in the 21st century can only increase if we are to match the pace of digital change and technological innovation. What you study over the next few years will shape your career opportunities, and what you achieve in those studies will form a large part of how your future employer assesses you. This is certainly true for the Royal Air Force (although we also expect applicants to have a sense of adventure and an enthusiasm for challenge!), and like many employers we offer a wide range of routes into employment, including entry direct from school aged 16, paid apprenticeships and sponsored degree-level entry.

The next few pages will explain how computer science skills and qualifications can lead to exciting employment opportunities in the UK and abroad. I hope this knowledge will inspire you to push yourself to your limits and I wish you the best of luck and great success wherever your educational journey takes you.

Group Captain Will Dole
Head of Recruitment & Selection, Royal Air Force
How will computer science prepare me for work?

Five workplace skills you’ll learn in computer science

**Problem Solving**
*In school:* Computers need specific and detailed instructions to successfully complete a task.
*At work:* User experience (UX) professionals look for problems in programmes and applications.

**Mathematical Skills**
*In school:* Mathematical principles are essential to computer programming. You’ll practice binary.
*At work:* If you want to work in software engineering or development, you’ll need these fundamental principles.

**Creativity**
*In school:* Creativity and problem solving go hand in hand. Sometimes you’ll need to think creatively.
*At work:* If you move into game design you’ll need to use your creative flair to programme.

**Data Analysis**
*In school:* We create a vast amount of digital data. Capturing and storing this data is an essential part.
*At work:* More and more jobs require an in-depth understanding of data analysis. Marketers need to...

**Logical Thinking**
*In school:* Computers rely on logic to run and you need to learn how to think ‘algorithmically’.
*At work:* Breaking problems down into a series of logical steps to solve can help in a range of jobs.

...and two you may not have thought of

**Ethical Awareness**
*In school:* The introduction of AI throws up a host of ethical questions. This includes whether machines...
*At work:* Computers offer great potential but there are also concerns about technology in our...

**Legal Acumen**
*In school:* We face new legal challenges due to computers. Data protection is a hot topic, but you’ll...
*At work:* If you work in cyber security, you’ll need a good understanding of the laws governing data...
Five ways your computer science know-how will help you at work

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KNOWLEDGE</th>
<th>HOW WILL IT HELP ME AT WORK?</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Understand and use a range of programming concepts. This includes how programming</td>
<td>This knowledge is fundamental in any programming role,</td>
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<td>concepts. This includes how programming</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Learn what is meant by ‘big data’ and why it presents both immense</td>
<td>Every time you buy something online, you create data about what you’re interested in and how you like to</td>
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<td>opportunities and ethical implications.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Develop knowledge of the physical internal and external components of a</td>
<td>As an IT consultant you’ll need a solid understanding of different computing systems and how the hardware</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>computer system.</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Gain an understanding of different kinds of networks, including how and</td>
<td>The most direct application of this knowledge is working as a network engineer. In this job you’ll set up and</td>
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<td>when to apply them.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Knowledge of the software development process, including iterative design</td>
<td>When you design software, you usually begin with a problem you’re trying to solve. As a software engineer</td>
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<tr>
<td>principles. Understand</td>
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This knowledge is fundamental in any programming role, and it will help you understand and use a range of programming concepts. Learning about 'big data' and its implications is crucial, especially in the digital age. Understanding the physical components of a computer system is essential for IT consultants. Knowing different types of networks and when to apply them is directly applicable to network engineering roles. Familiarity with the software development process is vital for software engineers.
SHOULD I CHOOSE COMPUTER SCIENCE?

**GCSE**
**KEY STAGE 4**
Computer science is a foundation subject, so you will have to take a GCSE in it. If you choose to study it at A-level, good grades will be valued.

**BTEC NATIONALS / APPLIED QUALIFICATIONS**
**KEY STAGE 5**
Applied qualifications like the BTEC National in computing combine theory with practical, skills-based learning, making them especially good if you’re not sure what you want to do.

**A-LEVEL / SCOTTISH HIGHERS / IB / EQUIVALENT**
**KEY STAGE 5**
Computer science at A-level is recommended if you plan to study a computer science degree, along with maths. Further maths and physics may also be important.

**WORK EXPERIENCE**
**KEY STAGE 4 / KEY STAGE 5**
When you’re looking for work experience in Year 10, it’s best to approach local technology and computing companies. Look for businesses in areas such as IT.
GAP YEAR
A gap year is also a good opportunity to get work experience in the area of computing. CyberFirst runs a bursary scheme with...

UNIVERSITY
Computing degrees typically lead to employment within the wider IT sector. 63% of 2018-19 graduates in subjects such as computing, cyber security...

APPRENTICESHIPS
INTERMEDIATE / ADVANCED LEVEL
An apprenticeship trains you in a particular role while you do it as a paid job. There are many intermediate and advanced level apprenticeships where good computing skills...

APPRENTICESHIPS
HIGHER / DEGREE
Computer science will also help you get on a range of higher or degree level apprenticeships. There’s a growing skills gap in...

SHOULD I CHOOSE COMPUTER SCIENCE?

APPRENTICESHIPS
INTERMEDIATE / ADVANCED LEVEL
• Cyber security technical professional
• Infrastructure technician
• Nuclear technician
• Software development technician
• Software tester
Career paths directly related to computer science

**IT & THE INTERNET \ SOFTWARE TESTER**

**Salary:**

**CAREER**

You’ll test software and systems to find issues that need to be fixed before a product is launched. Understanding software and the various testing methods is vital; you’ll also need your communication skills to share findings with other team members.

**EDUCATION**

At 14: GCSE
At 16: A-level/equivalent
At 18

**TIP**

**OTHER SCHOOL SUBJECTS TO CONSIDER**

Electronics

**EMPLOYERS**


**PUBLISHING & MEDIA \ VFX ARTIST**

**Salary:**

**CAREER**

**EDUCATION**

At 14: GCSE
At 16: A-level/equivalent
At 18

**TIP**

**OTHER SCHOOL SUBJECTS TO CONSIDER**

**EMPLOYERS**

Film and TV
Gaming

**ENGINEERING \ ROBOTICS ENGINEER**

**Salary:**

**CAREER**

**EDUCATION**

At 14: GCSE
At 16: A-level/equivalent
At 18

**TIP**

**OTHER SCHOOL SUBJECTS TO CONSIDER**

**EMPLOYERS**


**ADVERTISING, MARKETING & PUBLIC RELATIONS \ PPC SPECIALIST**

**Salary:**

**CAREER**

Pay-per-click (PPC) is paid advertising online. As a specialist in this area, you’ll run online advertising campaigns and make sure your clients get the most from what they’re spending on platforms like Google and Bing. The analytical skills you develop through computer science will help you monitor campaigns and adapt them.

**EDUCATION**

At 14: GCSE
Choose computer science.
At 16: A-level/equivalent
Choose computer science A-level, or the BTEC Level 1 and 2 in digital information technology.
At 18
Choose a degree in advertising or marketing, or the integrated degree digital marketer apprenticeship.

**TIP**

Learn how to use software like Google Analytics, Kenshoo and Marin to help you stand out.

**OTHER SCHOOL SUBJECTS TO CONSIDER**

English, maths, science

**EMPLOYERS**

Advertising and marketing • Loud Mouth Media, Circus PPC Agency, novi.digital
Ecommerce • Amazon, Argos, eBay, Asos
Why you should do computer science work experience

Computer science work experience gives you a chance to apply some of the skills you’re learning in real-world situations. Depending on what kind of work experience you get, you may even have a chance to do some programming.

But working in computing requires more than just strong technical skills. You also need to be able to work as part of a team, communicate with people who may not be as technically minded as you, and solve a wide variety of problems.

When you take a work experience placement, you can learn valuable transferable skills like these.

Work experience will also help your CV stand out when you are looking for a job. Employers want to know that you can use your technical skills in the real world and be able to fit into their organisation.

How you can make the most of work experience

Where you can find placements

Why work experience matters
In the past 30 years we’ve seen technology advance at a rapid rate, and it’s not slowing down. Advances in machine learning and artificial intelligence (AI) are set to change work as we know it. Automation will completely remove some jobs, but it will create others.

Cyber security —
Data scientists —
Software and hardware engineers —
Network specialists —
AI engineers —

As technology progresses, the specific skills required will change. But computer science will arm you with the fundamentals you’ll need to learn and adapt to technological change in the workplace.

Join the Royal Air Force and you’ll join an organisation that makes a difference. Whether in the skies above Britain or in airspace around the world, it’s our job to protect the UK. No two days are the same: there’s no such thing as an ordinary day, because it’s no ordinary job.

We protect the country against any form of threat. We also act as a force for good in the world by working to strengthen international peace and security, whether providing air support for British troops in action or flying missions alongside our international allies.

We face threats in an uncertain world, ranging from unauthorised aircraft entering protected airspace to cyber-attacks. We’re ready to scramble state-of-the-art aircraft to intercept threats. We identify and manage threats before they materialize, through intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance. We use a combination of state-of-art equipment and aircraft to gather minute-to-minute information on air activity.

The RAF is made up of over 30,000 personnel, across more than 60 different roles. We’re based all over the UK and around the world. Today the RAF is engaged in 15 missions on 4 continents in 22 countries. We have to be ready 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

For certain roles we offer experience days, for candidates to get an idea of what a specific role and life in the RAF is like. These can be arranged via your local Armed Forces Careers Office.

Entry into service ranges from zero qualifications; via one of more than 20 Ofsted Outstanding rated apprenticeships, up to a specialist degree or professional qualification for certain roles. We may even be able to sponsor you through university, or fund your course.

CORE VALUES
- Respect
- Integrity
- Service
- Excellence

SKILLS
- Adaptability
- Communication
- Teamwork
- Organised
- Leadership potential
- Integrity
- Maturity
- Problem solving
SPOTLIGHT JOB: Cyber intelligence officer

What is a cyber intelligence officer?
A cyber intelligence officer identifies threats to IT systems and finds ways to prevent cyber attacks. You’ll use digital resources to gather information and evidence about different threats. You also need to keep one eye on the future. Identifying new and evolving threats is an important part of your job. You’ll assess their possible impact and find ways to prevent them.

Why should it interest me?
Smartphones, computers and the internet have become a fundamental part of life. We shop and bank online. We use these devices and the internet to communicate. We all have a digital footprint that contains personal data. That’s something we should protect.

In the UK, there’s a need for more people with digital skills. Tech companies in the UK and around the world are growing. Cyber security was one of the fastest growing areas of employment among tech scaleups in 2018. That means there are lots of job opportunities, both at home and abroad.

According to the latest statistics, there are between 31,000 and 40,000 people employed in cyber security roles in the UK alone. There are more than 800 firms in the UK that actively provide cyber security products or services. 89% of these firms are small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). That figure doesn’t even include the businesses that have their own specialist cyber security teams.

It’s estimated that there’ll be 1 million tech vacancies in the UK by 2020.

Jobs for cyber intelligence officers will be among them.

What does the job involve?
Cyber security is a field that doesn’t stay still. New technology is always being developed and that means new threats are constantly emerging. As a cyber intelligence officer, your job is to stay one step ahead of the hackers.

You’ll identify threats and ways to protect against them. As part of this you may even carry out ‘ethical hacking’, where you simulate security breaches to find the best ways to protect against threats. You’ll also create disaster recovery plans that allow an organisation to get back on its feet after a security breach.

Explaining your work, writing reports and making recommendations to others in your organisation is essential. You’ll also need to develop relationships with other organisations to safely share security knowledge.

There are jobs for cyber intelligence officers across the private and public sector. You could work for government agencies like GCHQ, or in a specialist cyber security team within a large organisation.

Businesses in finance, the media and energy are often looking for people with these skills. Or you may find a job with a cyber security consultancy. Another place you can find work in this field is with the RAF as a cyberspace communication specialist. In this job you’ll be responsible for setting up, operating and maintaining the technology that the RAF relies on to communicate.

This role will use all your technical knowledge, as well as problem solving, teamwork and analytical thinking skills. You’ll constantly be learning and updating your skills to keep pace with developments in technology. Your skills will also make you highly employable in the civilian sector if you choose to leave the military.

What do I need to work as a cyber intelligence officer?
You need to be passionate about cyber security and have a strong interest in IT if you want to work in this area. Excellent spoken and written communication skills and organisational skills are essential too.

There are many paths that can lead to a job as a cyber intelligence officer. You could do a higher or degree apprenticeship in cyber security, cyber intrusion or network engineering. GCHQ also runs a cyber security degree apprenticeship. If you want to go to university, studying for a degree in cyber/information/network security, computer science, maths, or software/electrical/network engineering will help you develop the skills and knowledge you need. There are many graduate training schemes in this area too. You could also start in an entry-level position in an IT security firm when you finish your GCSEs or A-levels and work your way up to become a cyber intelligence officer.

JOB FACTS

- Job opportunities: 31,339 - 39,174 people employed in cyber security in the UK
- Salary range: £20,280 – £84,760
- Economic contribution: Total GVA contribution £2.3bn (2015/16 financial year)
- Industry growth: 50% growth in the number of cyber security firms from 2012 - 17
- Key skills required: Analytical thinking, communication, ability to work under pressure, attention to detail, problem solving
What does your role involve?

I’m a cyberspace communications specialist, providing reliable communications to enable airpower in the UK and overseas on operations. My current role is a network engineer at 90 SU provide robust and reliable IT infrastructure. The roles and responsibilities of my current job would be similar to that of a network engineer in a civilian job.

How did you adjust to being in a workplace?

The transition from civilian to military life wasn’t overly taxing for me as I had the discipline gained from years of martial arts training. What did take some getting used to was being away from family and loved ones. The RAF provide many opportunities to attend military and civilian leadership and management courses.

Did you always want to do this job?

What attracted me to the RAF were the trade opportunities while being able to serve. Being able to provide IT and communications to enable airpower in the UK and overseas was an exciting prospect.

What subjects did you study at school?

I needed at least grade 4 in GCSE English language, maths and a science subject to be able to apply for the role I’m in.

What training were you provided and how has it helped?

My training gave me fundamental building blocks for a solid foundation, with the trade itself allowing for further specialisation is different areas of IT and communications. In my current role I’ve gained Cisco qualifications and also had the opportunity to do a foundation degree in IT and communications. The degree is fully funded and conducted through Staffordshire University, which works closely with the Armed Forces. It’s allowed me to do the role on deployment in various places around the world, such as Afghanistan, Kuwait and Iceland.

What do you do on a day-to-day basis?

My day starts at 8am in the flight office, where briefings and daily tasks are allocated. The tasks range from servicing, exercise preparation/de-preparation, courses and general office tasks. When I’m not working, I’m in the gym doing circuits, football or karate training. We get time every day to do physical activity to keep our fitness up. My days vary due to deploying on exercise, competing in sports and even participating in parades or regimental duties.

What advice do you have for someone who wants to do your role?

Reply back to the recruitment staff whenever they contact you as soon as possible but at the same time be patient as they are very busy. Use this time to prepare both physically and mentally.

How do you see your career changing in future?

I enjoy the fact that every day is different and that there are so many opportunities to do different things. One day I could be working on cutting edge tech and the next day I could be on the tatami [mat], training for a karate competition. My next goal in the RAF is to get promotion to the rank of Corporal and, given the chance, to guide and teach future recruits of the RAF.

...every day is different...
| NAME: Lucy | NAME: Amie |
| EMPLOYER: Morgan Stanley | EMPLOYER: RS Components |
| JOB TITLE: Technology graduate apprentice; currently entitlements support analyst | JOB TITLE: Digital and technology apprentice |
| APPRENTICESHIP TITLE: IT: Software Development BSc (Hons) at Strathclyde University degree apprenticeship | APPRENTICESHIP TITLE: Level 4 Software Developer |

**What does your role involve?**

**How did you find out about your apprenticeship?**

**What are the two most important transferable skills you use in your role?**

**What advice do you have for someone who wants to do your role?**

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**What does your role involve?**

**Why did you choose to do an apprenticeship?**

**What do you do on a day-to-day basis?**

**What are the two most important transferable skills you use in your role?**

**What advice do you have for someone who wants to do your role?**

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**What subjects did you study at school?**

**Why did you choose to do an apprenticeship?**

**What subjects did you study at school?**

**What advice do you have for someone who wants to do your role?**

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“...be open, ask questions and communicate...”

“I’m constantly learning something new...”

Morgan Stanley
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What does your role involve?</th>
<th>NAME: Ashleigh</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What are the two most important transferable skills you use in your role?</td>
<td>EMPLOYER: PwC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What advice do you have for someone who wants to do your role?</td>
<td>JOB TITLE: Technology degree apprentice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How do you use your knowledge of computer science in your role?</td>
<td>APPRENTICESHIP TITLE: Flying Start Technology degree programme, University of Birmingham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Why did you choose to do an apprenticeship?</td>
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<th>scaled interview 991x250</th>
<th>scaled interview 991x250</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name: Jack</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>EMPLOYER: IBM UK Ltd</td>
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<tr>
<td>JOB TITLE: Integration technical lead</td>
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<tr>
<td>APPRENTICESHIP TITLE: Digital &amp; Technology Solutions degree apprenticeship</td>
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**Be prepared to take every opportunity presented to you...**

**An apprenticeship meant I could work on real-life deliverables...**
APPRENTICESHIPS

In this section, we’ve grouped apprenticeship programmes under Career Zones such as ‘banking & finance’. We’ve included as much information as possible for intermediate and advanced apprenticeships. For higher and degree apprenticeships, we have listed apprenticeships under the most popular industries for computer science students.

Intermediate apprenticeships
An intermediate apprenticeship is equivalent to five GCSEs at grades 4+/C+. To get onto an intermediate apprenticeship programme, you generally need “functional skills” in English and maths – which you will have if you’ve achieved GCSEs at grades 4+/C+ in these subjects. If you don’t, you may be able to complete these qualifications on the scheme.

Intermediate apprenticeships computer science students can apply for include:

Advanced apprenticeships
An advanced apprenticeship is equivalent to two A-levels. You usually need five GCSEs at grades 4+/C+, including English and maths, to embark on an advanced apprenticeship, but you may be able to study towards any qualification you may need whilst on the scheme.

Advanced apprenticeships for computer science students include:

FIND AN APPRENTICESHIP
AT SUCCESSATSCHOOL.ORG

Go to the Jobs & Courses page on our website to find an apprenticeship.
Higher apprenticeships

A higher apprenticeship is equivalent to a level 4, 5 or 6 qualification. That puts it on a par with a Higher National Certificate, Foundation degree or higher. Some higher apprenticeships lead to a Bachelor’s degree or equivalent qualification. You’ll usually need two A-levels or equivalent to embark on a higher apprenticeship. In the listings where there are no grades, assume the minimum grade required is C or equivalent.

### Business & Project Management

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<tr>
<th>Employers</th>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Salary</th>
<th>Grades</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Avanade UK</td>
<td>IS Business Analyst</td>
<td>£17,500</td>
<td>5 GCSEs including CS or Physics</td>
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</tbody>
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### Consultancy

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<th>Employers</th>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Salary</th>
<th>Grades</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IBM UK</td>
<td>Technical Junior Management Consultant</td>
<td>£18,000</td>
<td>64 UCAS points</td>
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### Engineering

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<th>Employers</th>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Salary</th>
<th>Grades</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collinson (Central Services)</td>
<td>QA Engineer</td>
<td>£21,000</td>
<td>Unsure</td>
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### IT & the Internet

<table>
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<th>Employers</th>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Salary</th>
<th>Grades</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apply</td>
<td>iOS/Android Developer</td>
<td>£14,000</td>
<td>5 GCSEs</td>
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### Cyber Security

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<th>Employers</th>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Salary</th>
<th>Grades</th>
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<tr>
<td>Anglo American</td>
<td>Cyber Intrusion Analyst</td>
<td>£22,000</td>
<td>3 A-Levels</td>
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### Science & Research

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<td>Cyber Intrusion Analyst</td>
<td>£22,000</td>
<td>3 A-Levels</td>
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Degree apprenticeships
A degree apprenticeship (referred to as a graduate apprenticeship in Scotland) is equivalent to a level 6 or 7 qualification like a Bachelor’s degree or even a Master’s. You’ll generally need two A-levels to embark on a degree apprenticeship. Entry requirements are A-level or equivalent unless otherwise indicated. In the listings where there are no grades, assume the minimum grade required is C or equivalent.

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<th>Bank &amp; Finance</th>
<th>Engineering</th>
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<td>Employers</td>
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</table>
EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT GAP YEARS

What’s a gap year all about?

A gap year pretty much does what it says on the tin. It’s about taking a break between two stages of your life. For young people, this usually means taking time between the end of school and the start of further education, training, apprenticeship or a full-time job.

Why should I consider taking a gap year?

Who can help me plan my gap year?

There are a range of gap year providers which offer organised travel, work and volunteering programmes, as well as useful planning tools.

How long does a gap year last?

Gap year work and study programmes can last anywhere from two weeks to 12 months, so you can choose a length of time that suits you. If you want to take a break between school and university, you’ll need to wait until the following September to join the next intake of students.

So what can I do on my gap year?

You’ve got a lot of options open to you, but the important thing is to use your time well and make a plan to give the year some structure.

Volunteering

Volunteering can be a great way to combine travel and work experience. Popular volunteering
UNIVERSITY

Five most popular courses for A-level maths students

Here, we look at the five most popular university degree courses taken by maths A-level students. We list the top five universities for each of these subjects, ranked by student satisfaction and percentage of graduates employed after six months of graduating. See below for more info on our methodology.

Tuition fees for all courses are £9,250 p.a., and course length is three years (some courses may be longer with placements), except for Scottish universities, which we’ve marked with a *. Courses at Scottish universities are four years long, and cost £1,820 p.a. for Scottish students, but £9,250 p.a. for students from other parts of the UK. Some other universities offer courses at a lower rate – you can check this on their website. We have included A-level requirements, as well as Scottish Higher requirements for Scottish universities marked with a *. Please check the university websites for the entry requirements for equivalent qualifications, such as International Baccalaureate, diplomas and so on. Entry requirements can sometimes be quite specific and we don’t have the space to include everything here, so please check university websites to see full details.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RANK</th>
<th>UNIVERSITY</th>
<th>OUR SCORE</th>
<th>A-LEVEL REQUIREMENT</th>
<th>SATISFACTION SCORE</th>
<th>% GRADS EMPLOYED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Liverpool John Moores</td>
<td>91.4</td>
<td>BBC</td>
<td>93.9</td>
<td>84</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Strathclyde</td>
<td>89.3</td>
<td>AAA/ABB inc A in maths or *AAAA/AAABB inc English &amp; maths</td>
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<td>87</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Leeds</td>
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<td>AAA</td>
<td>89.2</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Loughborough</td>
<td>88.6</td>
<td>AAB/ABB</td>
<td>86.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Nottingham Trent</td>
<td>88.5</td>
<td>ABB</td>
<td>91.7</td>
<td>79</td>
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<th>% GRADS EMPLOYED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lancaster</td>
<td>86.2</td>
<td>AAB</td>
<td>84.7</td>
<td>91</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Loughborough</td>
<td>85.9</td>
<td>AAB</td>
<td>84.6</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>York</td>
<td>84.5</td>
<td>AAB</td>
<td>85.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Nottingham Trent</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>BBB</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>87</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>UEA</td>
<td>83.4</td>
<td>ABB</td>
<td>85.8</td>
<td>76A</td>
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<th>SATISFACTION SCORE</th>
<th>% GRADS EMPLOYED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Warwick</td>
<td>91.8</td>
<td>A*AA inc A in maths</td>
<td>92.1</td>
<td>91</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Loughborough</td>
<td>91.2</td>
<td>ABB inc maths</td>
<td>90.9</td>
<td>92</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>St Andrews</td>
<td>90.6</td>
<td>AAA inc maths or *AAAB inc A in maths &amp; science subject(s)</td>
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<td>Surrey</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Cambridge</td>
<td>89.1</td>
<td>A<em>A</em>A* inc maths &amp; further maths</td>
<td>86.5</td>
<td>97</td>
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</table>
### Methodology

Scoring: We calculated our overall score by taking into account student satisfaction and employment prospects, the two areas we think are most useful to our readers. This comprised four metrics: satisfaction with feedback, satisfaction with overall course, satisfaction with assessment, and percentage of students in employment six months after graduating. Our student satisfaction score comprises of the three metrics, satisfaction with feedback, satisfaction with overall course, and satisfaction with assessment. % grads employed refers to graduates in paid work within six months of graduating.

Source for subject data: Best Course 4 Me, an independent website run by the charity The Brilliant Club.

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#### RANK UNIVERSITY OUR SCORE A-LEVEL REQUIREMENT SATISFACTION SCORE % GRADS EMPLOYED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>University</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>% Employed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Leeds Arts</td>
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<td>112 UCAS points (plus portfolio)</td>
<td>89.5</td>
<td>69</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Nottingham Trent</td>
<td>83.8</td>
<td>112 UCAS points</td>
<td>84.1</td>
<td>83</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Middlesex</td>
<td>83.8</td>
<td>112 UCAS points</td>
<td>88.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Falmouth</td>
<td>83.6</td>
<td>104-120 UCAS points</td>
<td>87.2</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>De Montfort</td>
<td>83.2</td>
<td>112 UCAS points (plus portfolio)</td>
<td>84.9</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>University</th>
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<th>Score</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>South Wales</td>
<td>92.2</td>
<td>BBB inc maths</td>
<td>95.5</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Lancaster</td>
<td>89.7</td>
<td>AAA inc maths or further maths or AAB inc maths &amp; further maths</td>
<td>90.6</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Loughborough</td>
<td>89.4</td>
<td>AAA inc maths or A<em>AB inc A</em> in maths</td>
<td>90.9</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>St Andrews</td>
<td>89.3</td>
<td>A<em>AA inc A</em> in maths or AAAAB inc A in maths</td>
<td>89.7</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Cambridge</td>
<td>89.3</td>
<td>A*AA &amp; STEP</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>87</td>
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</table>
APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We have more than 20 roles to choose from with RAF delivered apprenticeships rated outstanding by Ofsted, please see details below and on our website.

**TECHNICAL AND ENGINEERING**
- Aircraft Technician (Avionics)
- Aircraft Technician (Mechanical)
- Weapon Technician
- Survival Equipment Specialist
- Electrician
- Vehicle & Mech Equipment Technician
- General Technician Workshop
- Comms Infra Technician
- Cyberspace Communication Specialist
- Photographer

**AIR OPERATIONS SUPPORT**
- Air & Space Operations (Aerospace Systems)
- Air & Space Operations Specialist (Flight Ops)

**LOGISTICS**
- Chef
- Air & Ground Steward
- Driver
- Supply, Storage and Distribution Specialist
- Mover

**PERSONNEL SUPPORT**
- Personnel Support

**FORCE PROTECTION**
- RAF Police
- Firefighter
- RAF Regiment Gunner

**COMMUNICATIONS AND INTELLIGENCE**
- Intelligence Analyst

Excellent starting salary and career progression
Guaranteed job after successful training
Gain civilian-recognised qualifications