

Opportunities in Technology

In Scotland:

- > there are more than 7000 workplaces in the IT & Telecoms industry
- > there are 100,000 employed in the IT & Telecoms industry
- > 38% of IT & Telecoms professionals work in software roles
- > over the last decade, the number of software professionals has grown by 56%

What industry wants:

- > Skills rather than certification
- > Skills in storytelling
- > Left/right brain requirement
- > Logical reasoning
- > Active listening
- > Critical thinking
- > Social Skills
- > Complex problem solving skills
- > Creative thinking
- > Entrepreneurship
- > Visionaries

It is predicted that:

- > The UK needs 10,000 graduates per year yet we are only producing 4,000-5,000
- > 100,000 extra graduates required across Europe
- > There has been a 46% growth rate in the sector since 2010 but there is an estimated growth to be 18% by 2017

Where can this lead?

Software development is behind every app you use, every computer game you play. It's databases, virtual reality and robotics – and much more. Typical careers in the sector include computer Games Tester, Software developer and Network Manager.

Foundation Apprenticeship in Software Development



Vocational courses
ideal for S5-S6 pupils
with an interest in
technology, who wish
to follow a career in
tech or enhance their
skills in this area

**SCHOOL
COLLEGE
PARTNERSHIP**

www.whc.uhi.ac.uk/schools

The **Foundation Apprenticeship in Computing (Software)** course is designed by industry and is typically delivered over 2 years to help young people gain valuable, real-world work experience and access work-based learning while they're still at school.



Foundation Apprenticeships are a work-based learning opportunity for secondary school pupils in S4 and S5 giving young people an early exposure to the world of work and helping them to develop the skills, experience and knowledge they'll need when they leave school. Young people spend time studying a college course (in or out of school) and/or with a local employer, and complete the Foundation Apprenticeship alongside their other subjects like National 5s and Highers. This course is for anyone who is considering progressing onto university, further study or entering the workplace. It offers the opportunity to get a head start by gaining an industry-recognised qualification with relevant work experience working on real projects.

For employers, it's the chance to attract highly motivated and committed young people who are willing to learn, identifying young people who are right for their business and ensure their organisation have people with the required skill. So, on successful completion, there could be the possibility of employment at a junior level with study continuing through a Modern Apprenticeship or working towards the study of a degree programme, possibly sponsored, on a part-time basis.

Young people spend time studying a college course (in and/or out of school) and/or with an employer, or work directed by the sector skills council. This course is for anyone who wishes to get a head start by gaining an industry-recognised qualification with relevant work experience working on real projects.

You will study:

- > NPA (National Progression Award) in Software Development at SCQF Level 6
- > Work based units from the Diploma for IT & Telecommunications Professional at SCQF Level 6

This Foundation Apprenticeship course is studied alongside other subjects whilst still at school.

Progression

On the successful completion, you will have a qualification that will strengthen your application for further study if that's what you choose. You may have an opportunity to secure employment while following a modern apprenticeship route or you may consider continuing your studies at college or university.

How and where will I study?

You will study 1 day per week in either a school base or a College campus. The course lasts 2 years.

Entry requirements

You must be going in to S5 when you start or S4 with agreement of the school.

Assessments

Most of the assessments are practical tasks, although, there are a number of small tests which are presented under controlled condition.

Ideal for you..

If you are moving in to S4 or S5, have an interest in technology, wish to follow a career in technology or to add a vocational a course to other subject choices which will enhance their skills in the IT/Computing and Digital Media

**For more
information
about this course
contact
your Guidance
Teacher**