May 2022

CAREERS SERVICE

Department for the Economy
www.economy-ni.gov.uk

SKILLS TO SUCCEED

CYBER SECURITY CAREERS

A YOUNG PERSON'S GUIDE



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Why study Cyber Security?

Career options and pathways

Local entry routes including courses and apprenticeships

How to get started

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INTRODUCTION TO CYBER SECURITY

Cyber Security Technician
Penetration Tester
Security Architect
Data Protection Analyst
Ethical Hacker
Cyber Security Risk Assessor
Security Data Engineer
Information Security Consultant
Security Software Developer

What is cyber security?

> Cyber security is the protection of all our networks, systems, devices and data that we use on a day-to-day basis.
>
> **Judith Millar, Business Development Manager, CSIT, QUB**

The cyber security industry is diverse and fast-paced, offering many opportunities for you to build an exciting, interesting, and rewarding career. There are currently 104 cyber security firms operating in NI, employing an estimated 2,299 people*.

This short guide explores the career options that cyber security has to offer, including entry routes and information on activities you can get involved in now, to help you to build relevant skills and knowledge.

What kind of roles are available in Cyber Security?

There are a wide variety of careers available, including, but not limited to:

- Cyber Security Technician
- Penetration Tester
- Information Security Analyst
- Ethical Hacker

You do not need to be an expert in programming or networking to work in cyber security. Opportunities exist across a range of levels and specialisms, each requiring different skillsets and qualifications (more on this later).

Why should I consider a career in cyber security?

- Cyber security is a sector with a huge, ever-increasing demand for professionals.
- Northern Ireland is now considered a global cyber security hub, providing lots of exciting opportunities for our young people to join the industry.
- Cyber security roles command attractive salary and benefits packages. Estimated average salary for an NI cyber security professional is £48,400*.

Video Overview

Judith Millar is Business Development Manager at the Centre for Secure Information Technologies (CSIT), Queen's University Belfast. CSIT, founded in 2009, is the UK's Innovation and Knowledge Centre for Cyber Security.

In the short video below, Judith explains the work of CSIT and discusses the growing importance of cyber security. Judith also highlights the wide variety of dynamic career opportunities available and the benefits of working in cyber security.



*Source:
[Northern Ireland Cyber Security Sector Snapshot 2021]

CAREER OPTIONS IN CYBER SECURITY

In this section, we look at where you can find more information on cyber security career options, such as Careers Service resources and other cyber security-specific websites.

Careers Service Cyber Security Newsflash

This guide outlines the important role cyber security plays in our lives and offers an overview of the sector in Northern Ireland.

Through short articles and video clips, it explores cyber careers from the perspectives of professionals working locally for global companies, including Microsoft, AllState and CME Group.

There is also a career profile of the CEO of a local cyber security advisory company.



Careers Service Online Tool – Career Discovery (Xello)

The Department for the Economy's Careers Service provides a free, interactive tool for young people, helping you to map out your future career plans. It contains a wealth of information about career pathways, including cyber security.

Career discovery (Xello) is aimed at young people aged 11-19, please visit the Career discovery (Xello) webpage for details on how to register. Xello can also be accessed in schools and FE colleges - further information is available from your education provider.

Cyber security-specific websites

UK Cyber Security Council: Cyber security career pathways – Careers Route Map

The UK Cyber Security Council has created a Careers Route Map, a tool which can be used to explore each of the 16 cyber security career specialisms and the multiple routes into and through the industry.

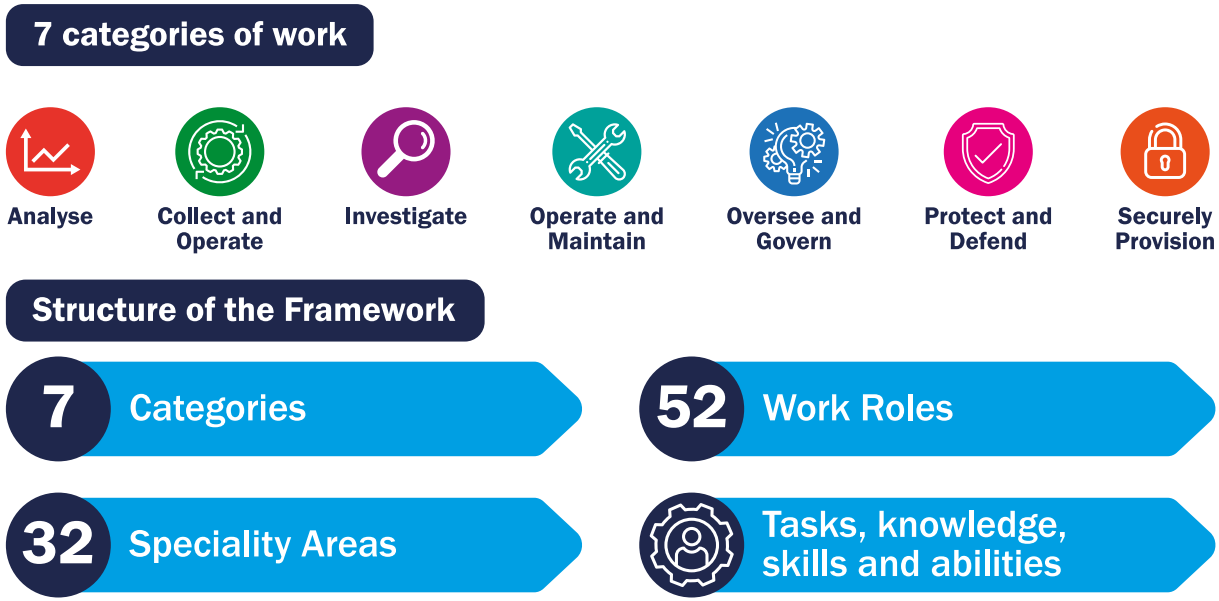
Cyber Seek: Cybersecurity Career Pathway

This US website includes an interactive career-pathway tool that illustrates key job titles within cyber security, common pathways between them and skillsets associated with each role.

NICE Framework

The internationally recognised Workforce Framework for Cyber Security (NICE Framework) explains that cyber security work should not be thought of as a single job. Instead, it can be organised into 7 categories, comprising more than 50 distinct work roles, each requiring different knowledge, aptitudes and skills, in order to perform cyber security work effectively (as summarised in the graphic pictured right).

The NICE Framework work role video clips feature professionals discussing their cyber security careers.



Source: NICE Framework

CYBER SECURITY AND ME

In the video clips below, Jade and Claire discuss how they got started in cyber security and what their roles entail. They also share some advice for those who would like to begin a career in the sector.

KEY TERMS
AWS – Amazon Web Services

GRC – Governance, Risk Management, and Compliance

SIEM - Security Information and Event Management (SIEM) is a set of tools and services offering an holistic view of an organisation's information security

JADE TRUFFITT

Company: Allstate Northern Ireland
Job Role: Cyber Risk Security Assessor
About me: I've worked for Allstate for 13 years, since I was 18. I started off in tech support, before getting an internal role in cyber security and I've had the opportunity to work in a number of different areas within the company, including Data Protection and GRC.



"A lot of my role is working with other business areas, communicating with both technical and non-technical audiences. I love working with people and I get to learn a lot from the people around me."

CLAIRE BURN

Company: Elastic
Job Role: Security Data Engineer
About me: I've been working at Elastic for 8 months. My work is fully remote, and I'm on a globally-distributed team. My role involves creating, maintaining and innovating data pipelines within Elastic's security app - I protect the world's data from attack!



"Cyber security isn't all about the coding. There are so many different roles within it and that's something I love about the industry. There is so much to discover and such an amazing and welcoming local community of cyber security enthusiasts here in Northern Ireland!"

PATHWAYS TO A CAREER IN CYBER SECURITY

There are a wide range of career pathways to choose from in the cyber security sector, as well as a number of different starting points – including GCSEs (or equivalent Level 2 qualifications, such as Level 2 Diplomas) and A-Levels (or equivalent Level 3 qualifications, such as Level 3 Diplomas).

Why study Cyber / Digital Technology?

If you enjoy computing but aren't sure how studying the subject could help your job prospects, you will be pleased to know that employers are keen to hire people with digital technology skills right now – especially those with cyber skills.

Choosing Digital IT at GCSE/equivalent Level 2 course and A-level/ equivalent Level 3 course can be a great starting point.

Schools offer a variety of GCSEs/equivalent qualifications in Digital Technology, with specialist pathways available in multimedia and programming.

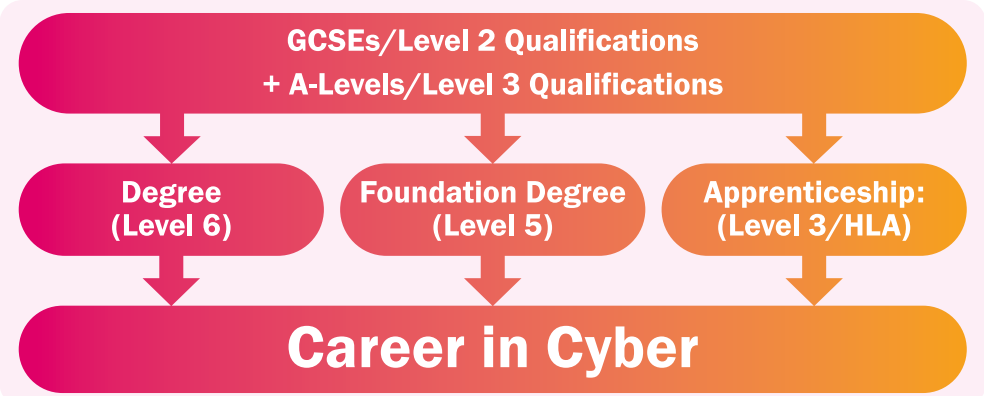
After Year 12, you can choose from a variety of courses available in schools and at FE colleges. FE colleges offer a range of Level 2 and Level 3 digital technology-related courses, while schools may offer A-Levels such as Software Systems Development, Digital Technology and/or alternative Level 3 IT courses, such as Pearson BTEC or OCR qualifications. Speak to schools/local FE colleges to find out more about what's on offer/entry requirements.

DID YOU KNOW?
Qualifications are grouped together into levels, to show how they compare and what other qualifications they can lead to. You can find out more about this in **Qualifications: what the different levels mean**

Pathways into Cyber Security

There are three main options to choose from:

- Degree
- Foundation Degree
- Apprenticeship: Level 3 or Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA)



The main difference between the options is that Foundation Degrees and Degrees are studied on either a full-time or part-time basis; by contrast, an apprenticeship combines employment with tailored, off-the-job training – so you "earn while you learn". Apprenticeships are available at Level 3 or as a Higher Level Apprenticeship (at Foundation Degree or Degree level).

The next few pages will explain the options in more detail.



APPRENTICESHIPS / HIGHER LEVEL APPRENTICESHIPS (HLAs)

Apprenticeships can provide a great opportunity to fulfill your potential by developing your skills and knowledge to achieve your career goal. Apprenticeships offer the opportunity to earn while you learn: you will be working alongside experienced, professional staff, receiving off-the-job, specific training. You will also gain a valuable, recognised qualification, as well as building technical and employability skills.

From an employers' perspective, hiring an apprentice helps them to grow their business and develop skills to meet their company's specific needs.

Cyber security can be chosen as a specialism on the Level 3 Information Technology apprenticeship. Cyber security-related Higher Level Apprenticeships are also available (see information below and overleaf). You can find out more information on the Apprenticeships NI programme on the Apprenticeships webpage.

Some employers may offer their own in-house apprenticeship/training schemes, and these are usually advertised in the local news media.

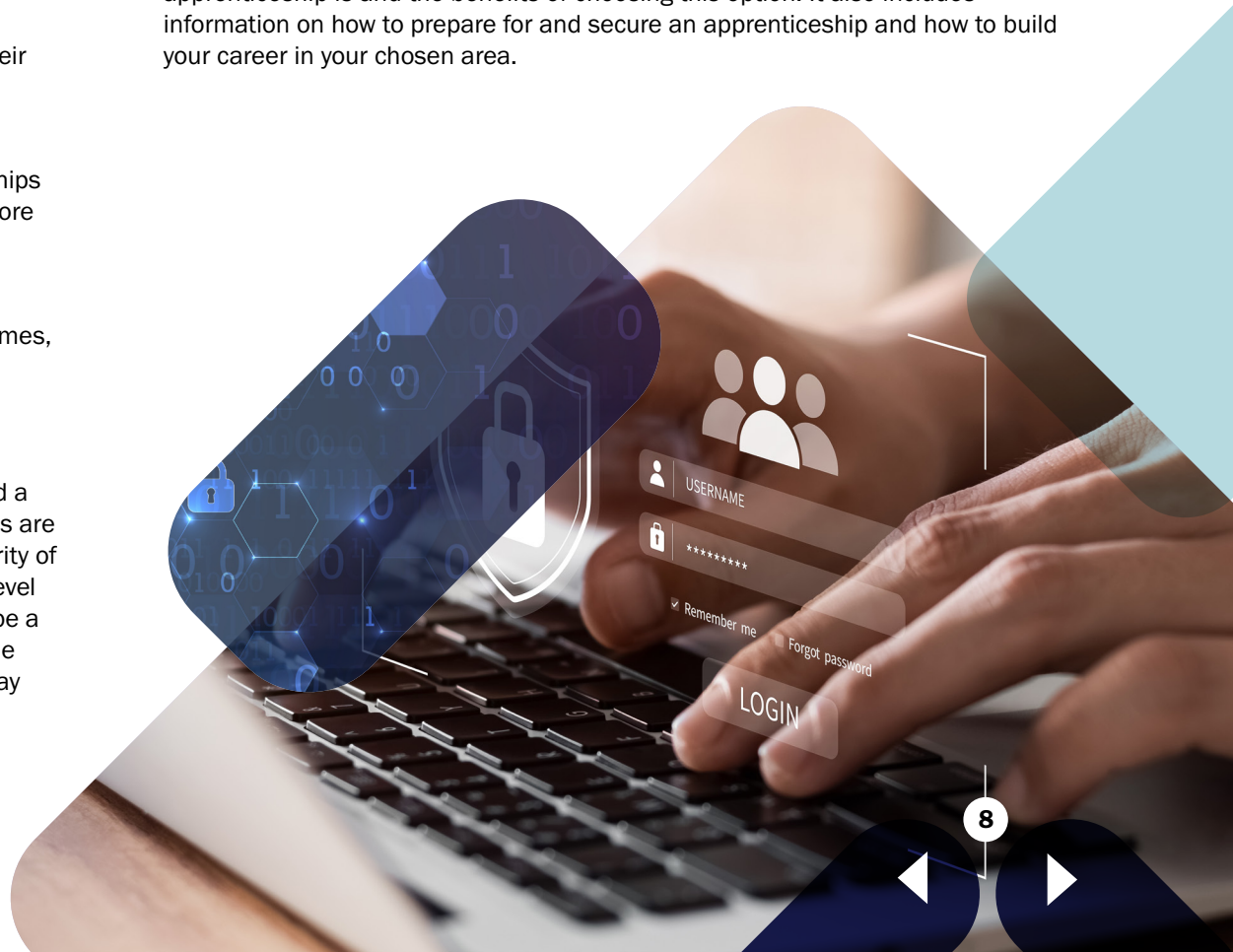
Higher Level Apprenticeships (HLAs)

If you have completed A-Levels or equivalent qualifications, you may wish to consider a Higher Level Apprenticeship, which combines quality training and a recognised qualification with paid employment. Higher Level Apprenticeships are currently offered at Level 4 – Level 7 (Master's Degree level), with the majority of HLAs offered at Level 5 (Foundation Degree level). The length of a Higher Level Apprenticeship will vary depending on the programme you choose, but will be a minimum of two years. Benefits of a Higher Level Apprenticeship include the opportunity to achieve a professional-level qualification, without having to pay higher-education tuition fees.

How to find out more

To find out more about Apprenticeships NI, eligibility criteria and how to get started, check out the Apprenticeships webpage.

You can also access the "Apprentice Toolkit", which explains what an apprenticeship is and the benefits of choosing this option. It also includes information on how to prepare for and secure an apprenticeship and how to build your career in your chosen area.



FE COLLEGES

There are 6 FE colleges across Northern Ireland which offer a wide range of full-time and part-time Higher and Further Education courses. Click on the graphics below to search courses offered at each college:

Digital IT Hub

The Digital IT Curriculum Hub is led by Belfast Met, which works in partnership with the five other FE colleges in Northern Ireland to ensure high quality education and training and effective employer engagement, in order to provide the skills pipeline needed for this important sector.

For further information, please contact the Digital IT Hub Manager:
Eamonn Brankin

Cyber Security higher level apprentices – video clip

You can watch a short video clip featuring Cyber Security higher level apprentices discussing their experiences on the programme, through which they have been able to gain Open University-accredited qualifications in Cyber Security and Networking (delivered by Belfast Met).



SWC – CyberFirst Gold Provider of Cyber Security Education

The National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) publish a list of schools and colleges that have achieved CyberFirst recognition at Gold, Silver or Bronze level. South West College were accredited as a Gold provider by CyberFirst in 2021, in recognition of their excellence in the delivery of cyber security education.

FE, APPRENTICESHIP AND HIGHER-LEVEL APPRENTICESHIP OPTIONS

Please note, courses referenced in this section may be subject to change - contact colleges/training providers directly for the most up-to-date guidance on course options and entry criteria.

Some relevant HLA options are available through the local universities. Please see pages 12 and 15 of this guide/contact universities directly for more information.

Further Education (FE)

Belfast Met
Level 3 IT Infrastructure Technician (Cyber Security)

Level 3 Apprenticeship

SERC
Apprenticeship in Networking Infrastructure Level 3

Belfast Met
Apprenticeship in Networking Infrastructure Level 3

In addition to the colleges mentioned above, there are a number of private training providers contracted to deliver this Level 3 Apprenticeship under Apprenticeships NI. You can learn more about who delivers apprenticeship training in your area on the Find Apprenticeship Training webpage.

Higher Level Apprenticeship

Belfast Met
Higher Level Apprenticeship in Cyber Security and Networking Infrastructure

South West College
Higher Level Apprenticeship in Cyber Security



FOUNDATION DEGREE AND DEGREE OPTIONS

Foundation Degree

Belfast Met
Foundation Degree in Cyber Security and Networking Infrastructure (Validated by The Open University)

South West College (SWC)
Foundation Degree in Cyber Security (Validated by The Open University)

Degree

Belfast Met
BSc (Hons) Degree Cyber Security and Networking Infrastructure (Top-Up)

South West College (SWC)
BSc (Hons) Degree in Computing Science (Top-Up)

Please note:
FE colleges also offer courses in Computing, Software, and related courses, which could lead to further study in Cyber Security, or on-the-job training. Please contact your local college directly for up-to-date information on available course options.





UNDERGRADUATE AND POSTGRADUATE OPTIONS

UNIVERSITIES

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST COURSES

Since its foundation in 2009, the Centre for Secure Information Technologies (CSIT) at Queen's has developed a strong reputation for the strength of cyber security education and promotion of cyber security right across the University.

CSIT has been recognised as an Academic Centre of Excellence in Cyber Security Research (ACE-CSR) since 2011.

Listed in this section are a range of dedicated cyber security postgraduate programmes followed by undergraduate and postgraduate programmes that include cyber security modules/content. Please visit the QUB website for details of entry criteria, or contact the university directly if you require further information.

QUB Cyber Security Postgraduate courses

MSc Applied Cyber Security (Certified by GCHQ/NCSC)
1 Academic Year (Full-time) or 2 Academic Years (Part-time)

MSc Applied Cyber Security with Professional Internship (Certified by GCHQ/NCSC)
1 Academic Year (Full-time) or 3 Academic Years (Part-time)

PgCert Applied Cyber Security
Consists of 3 modules, flexible part-time delivery

QUB Undergraduate Courses

These courses are delivered in the School of Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (EEECS). While these courses are not specific cyber security degrees, they cover cyber security content within various modules, and you can also choose specific cyber security modules as part of your studies, preparing you for jobs in cyber security along with other industries.

Computer Science

BSc Computer Science with Professional Experience
4 Academic Years (Full-time) - UCAS code: G400

MEng Computer Science
4 Academic Years (Full-time) - UCAS code: G402

MEng Computer Science with Professional Experience
5 Academic Years (Full-time) - UCAS code: G405

Software Engineering

BEng Software Engineering with Digital Technology Partnership (Degree Apprenticeship)
4 Academic Years (Full-time) - UCAS code: G606

BEng Software Engineering with Placement
4 Academic Years (Full-time) - UCAS code: G604

MEng Software Engineering
4 Academic Years (Full-time) - UCAS code: G602

MEng Software Engineering with Placement
5 Academic Years (Full-time) - UCAS code: G605

Computer Engineering

BEng Computer Engineering
3 Academic Years (Full-time) - UCAS code: GH6P

BEng Computer Engineering (with Year in Industry)
4 Academic Years (Full-time) - UCAS code: GH67

MEng Computer Engineering
4 Academic Years (Full-time) - UCAS code: GH6Q

MEng Computer Engineering (with Year in Industry)
5 Academic Years (Full-time) - UCAS code: GH68

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST

KEY TERMS

DevOps – a set of practices that combines software development (Dev) and IT operations (Ops).

CTF – 'Capture the Flag', or CTF events, are computer security competitions, designed to demonstrate expertise in defending (or attacking) cyber systems.

Tanuja's Story

Tanuja is an international student who worked as a software engineer after graduating with qualifications in information technology and software engineering. Tanuja joined the MSc Cyber Security (with internship) in January 2021 and will be graduating with an MSc commendation. She completed a research project entitled "Detect Software Vulnerabilities using Natural Language Processing", where she developed AI skills that are in high demand. While at Queen's, Tanuja was highly engaged – acting as class rep, representing QUB at the inter-university Veracode Hacker Games (a CTF-style event), and serving as a university ambassador. Following her participation in the aforementioned hacking competition, US firm Veracode offered Tanuja a part-time role, which eventually led to a full internship.

> After working as a developer and DevOps Engineer for almost a decade, I wanted to broaden my career to focus on cyber security, which has an ever-expanding scope. I was fortunate to get admission to one of the UK's best cyber security research labs at QUB. As part of my course, I had an opportunity to participate in the Veracode Hacker Games, which became a turning point for me in securing a career in cyber security. The course certainly wasn't easy, but it definitely was a career-altering and empowering experience for me.

UNDERGRADUATE AND POSTGRADUATE OPTIONS

These other courses are also delivered in the School of Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (EEECS). Each has some relevant cyber security content, but less concentrated than the Computer Science, Software Engineering, and Computer Engineering pathways.

BSc Computing and Information Technology with Professional Experience
4 Academic Years (Full-time) - UCAS code: GG45

BSc Business Information Technology with Professional Experience BSc
4 Academic Years (Full-time) - UCAS code: GN51

BEng Electrical and Electronic Engineering
3 Academic Years (Full-time) - UCAS code: H600

MEng Electrical and Electronic Engineering
4 Academic Years (Full-time) - UCAS code: H602

MSc Software Development
1 Academic Year (Full-time) or 3 Academic Years (Part-time)

PGCert Software Development
4 Months, 16 hours of study per week

This course is delivered in the School of Law and includes an optional module on cyber security:

LLM Law and Technology
1 Academic Year (Full-time) or 2 Academic Years (Part-time)

UNDERGRADUATE AND POSTGRADUATE OPTIONS

ULSTER UNIVERSITY COURSES

Ulster University Undergraduate and Postgraduate Course Options

Accredited by the British Computing Society (BCS), the following Ulster University courses equip graduates with the skills and knowledge in core topics such as Computer Network Security and Cyber Security, opening a pathway into a career within the Cyber Security industry. Please visit the Ulster University website for details of entry criteria, or contact the university directly if you require further information.

Magee Campus

- **Computer Science BSc Hons**
  Four years including placement - UCAS code: G401
- **Computer Science (Software Systems Development) BSc Hons**
  Four years including placement - UCAS code: G601
- **Artificial Intelligence BEng Hons**
  Four years including placement - UCAS code: GA50
- **Information Technology BSc Hons** - Four years including placement - UCAS code: G501

Belfast Campus

- **Computing Science BSc Hons**
  Four years including placement - UCAS code: G400
- **Computing Technologies BSc Hons**
  Four years including placement - UCAS code: G500
- **Interactive Computing BSc Hons**
  Four years including placement - UCAS code: G450
- **Software Engineering BEng Hons**
  Four years including placement - UCAS code: G600
- **Computing Systems BSc Hons**
  Progress part-time at your own pace, completing in 3, 4, 5 or 6 years. This course is also offered as a higher level apprenticeship – for more information, please contact School of Computing - computing@ulster.ac.uk

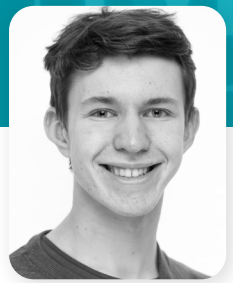
Ulster University Postgraduate Course Options

Magee Campus

- **MSc Professional Software Development**
  1 year full-time
- **MSc Data Science**
  1 year full-time
- **PhD Cyber Security**
  for more information, please contact the School of Computing, Engineering and Intelligent Systems – sceis@ulster.ac.uk

Belfast Campus

- **MSc Internet of Things**
  1 year full-time, 2.5 years part-time
- **MSc Computer Science**
  1 year full-time, 2.5 years part-time
- **MSc Artificial Intelligence**
  1 year full-time, 2.5 years part-time
- **PgCert Computer Science** - 8 months part-time
- **PgCert Artificial Intelligence** - 8 months part-time
- **PhD Cyber Security/Cryptography** - for more information, please contact the School of Computing - computing@ulster.ac.uk



JAMES MATCHETT
SENIOR CYBER SECURITY ENGINEER HIGHER LEVEL APPRENTICE, KAINOS

> Cyber security is an amazing career for those who love to figure out how things work. It promotes a culture of constant learning and communicating, and so it is open to everyone from all backgrounds.

My journey into Cyber

My name is James Matchett, and I am a Senior Cyber Security Engineer HLA at Kainos. I spend 4 days a week working in the office on real life projects, and the other day studying for the BSc Hons in Computing Systems over 4.5 years at Ulster University. In 2021 I was honoured to be named Northern Ireland's Higher Level Apprentice of the Year for my work with Ulster University and Kainos Software, and since then I have endeavoured to be an ambassador for apprenticeship schemes throughout Northern Ireland.

Why I chose an apprenticeship

I studied Computer Science, Mathematics and Physics A-levels, and I knew I wanted to work in software engineering, with a passion for figuring out how things worked. I did a 5-week summer IT placement through Sentinus, and the experience and hands-on skills I learnt there opened my eyes to how the real world worked. I knew I wanted to get stuck in straight away to contribute to industry and further my own development, though I also didn't want to miss the opportunity to earn a degree.

Some people may think that choosing a degree apprenticeship scheme closes some doors; instead, it opens all doors, in my opinion. I can be both a university student and an industry professional and enjoy the fullest of both worlds. I never thought beforehand that I'd be able to join clubs and societies, go for promotion in the workplace, make the Dean's list on several occasions and be close to my friends and family all at once.

A day in the life of a cyber security engineer

A standard day in cyber security typically begins with a morning stand-up call with the project stakeholders, such as software developers, project managers and clients. We usually discuss the previous day's events, what we're going to do today and any issues or blockers. I take the opportunity to talk about any security vulnerabilities I've found and what we need to do to fix them.

I like being presented with difficult, challenging problems. My all-time favourite to be asked is "Would someone be able to hack this?", and I'll give it my best shot, pretending to be a malicious attacker and trying to dismantle whatever it is in my head, understanding how it works behind the scenes and trying to find the edge cases and boundaries of the system. I like to say that "hacking" is 99% hitting your head against a keyboard in frustration and 1% euphoria when you manage to compromise something! People tend to only pay attention to that last 1% and think you're a genius for managing it without seeing the hundreds of failed attempts that went into making that one good attempt happen!

Why I would recommend cyber security as a career

Cyber security is an amazing career for those who love to figure out how things work, find ways around boundaries and problems, and contribute to a diverse and constantly evolving industry for the digital 21st century. It promotes a culture of constant learning and communicating, and so it is open to everyone from all backgrounds, since a lot of the penetration testing work revolves around finding new creative ways around problems: a person from a different background, career or skillset might be just the person to spot that one solution that no one else could!

UNDERGRADUATE AND POSTGRADUATE OPTIONS

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY

The Open University offer the following courses by supported distance learning:

Undergraduate study

BSc (Honours) Cyber Security can be completed on a full-time basis over 3 years; part-time basis over 6 years (see website for full information) – course code: R60

Postgraduate study

Postgraduate Diploma in Cyber Security (course code: E96)

MSc in Cyber Security (course code: F87)

Other Relevant Courses:

OpenLearn module - Introduction to cyber security: stay safe online

Micro-credentials

AWS-Solutions Architect – this is a micro-credential module which helps students understand the Amazon Web Services (cloud) infrastructure and includes building secure solutions. Duration – 10 weeks.

Cyber Security Operations (Cisco) Duration: 12 weeks.

Cisco: DevOps using DevNet Coding Skills - FutureLearn Duration: 10 weeks

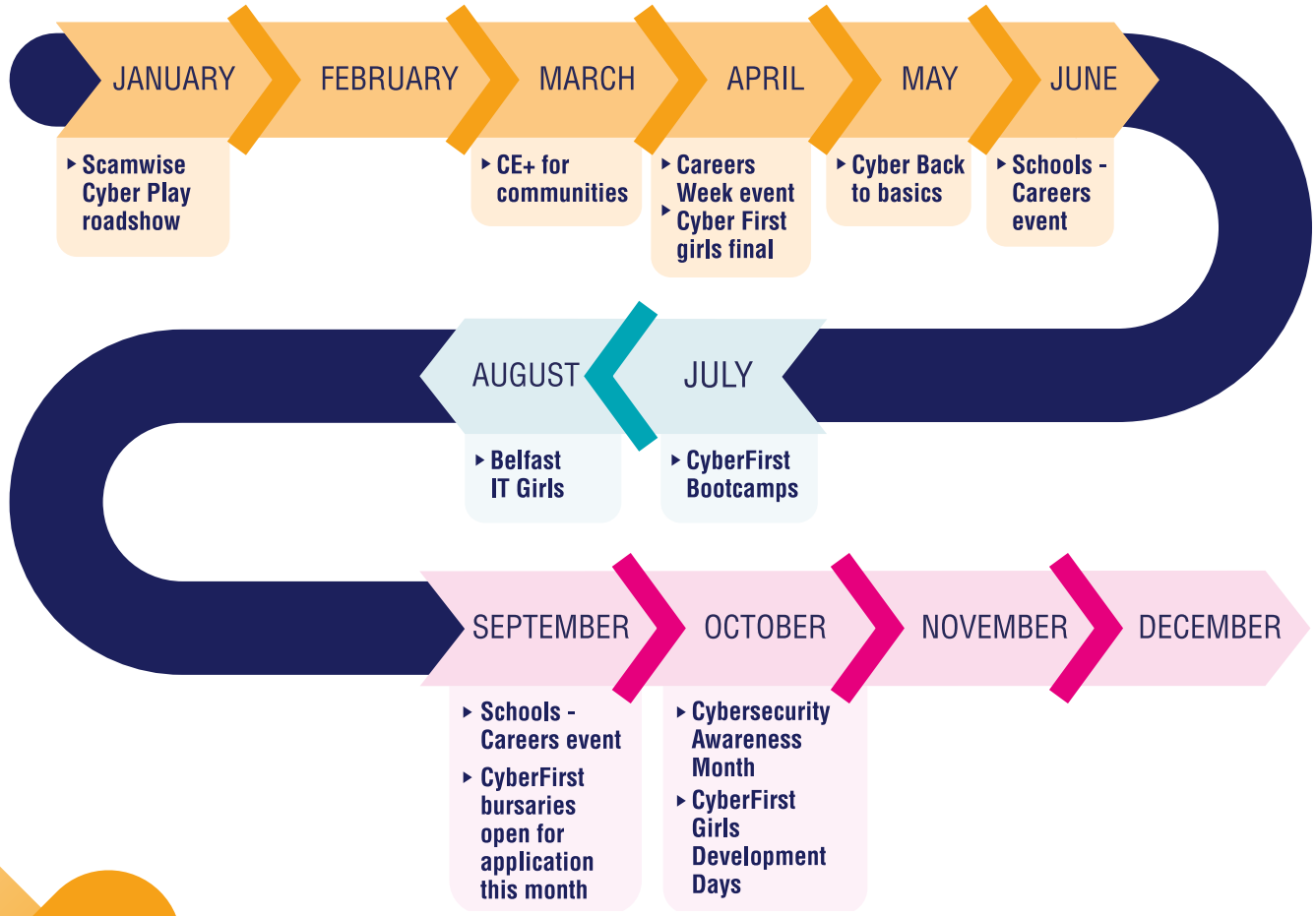
Please see The Open University website for full information on any of the courses mentioned above





WHAT CAN I DO NOW?

There are a variety of different activities that you can get involved in now, to help you build up relevant transferable skills, knowledge and experience. Look out for details of the events below on FE college websites and social media. More information on CyberFirst programmes/events can be found on pages 19-20 and on the **CyberFirst website**.



Cybersecurity Awareness Month

Cybersecurity Awareness Month takes place every October and includes:

- Cyber Aware - Passwords, Patch, Prepare
- Cloud Basics
- Protecting Assets
- Cyber Aware (NCSC)
- Developing Cloud Strategy
- Using the Internet Safely
- Ransomware the Other Side of Response
- DevSecOps
- Cyber Safety for Older Adults
- Cyber First Girls Development Day
- Personal Resilience

CYBERFIRST

CyberFirst is a programme of opportunities and support helping young people aged 11-17 years explore their passion for computers and technology and introducing them to the fascinating and critical world of cyber security.

What are the opportunities?

CyberFirst Courses:

These free courses, aimed at 12-17 year olds, are designed to introduce students to the exciting word of cyber security and inspire them to future study and hopefully a career in cyber. The courses are GCHQ Certified and accredited by SQA (Scottish Qualification Authority).



CyberFirst covers a broad range of activities:

- A comprehensive bursary scheme to financially support undergraduates through university
- A degree apprenticeship scheme
- A girls-only competition
- Thousands of free places on CyberFirst courses at UK universities and colleges
- A new initiative: CyberFirst Schools and Colleges

CyberFirst supports women in cyber security

It's very important that bright young women are encouraged to consider computer science at GCSE.

The CyberFirst Girls competition is a high profile intervention by the NCSC to allow 12/13 yr old girls the opportunity to explore cyber-related challenges first hand.



CyberFirst Bursaries

The NCSC is recruiting and carefully selecting around 200 high-calibre students with a proven aptitude for cyber security. The support provided will include a £4,000/annum student bursary, as well as £2,000 for 8 weeks of summer training (including support with accommodation costs) or work placement with industry or government. Upon graduation, we aim to facilitate a move into a full-time cyber security role.

For more details on CyberFirst bursaries, please see the CyberFirst Film and Podcasts and CyberFirst Bursaries campaign page (bursaries open for application in September).

Events:

CyberFirst Girls Competition

CyberFirst Girls Competition registrations open in October and the grand NI area final takes place in February each year.

CyberFirst Girls Development Days

CyberFirst Girls Development Days are courses open to girls on a range of dates virtually, and we do also have a f2f event at QUB every October.



Cyber Explorers

Cyber Explorers is a new initiative designed to inspire 11-14 year-olds across the UK to pursue interests and subject choices that could take them towards an exciting and rewarding career in cyber security.

The initiative will focus on improving the career prospects and diversity of students that may be open to exploring a career in cyber. It will achieve this by providing young people with access to educational and inspirational content, guiding them through a series of characters and episodes in order to explore how cyber security is such a relevant and exciting subject and career.



BRING IT ON

Bring on the next generation of I.T. talent!

Bring IT On showcases the opportunities and benefits of careers in IT for you by raising awareness of the great diversity of options in this exciting and ever-changing sector.

We run events, speak at schools, attend job fairs and work with employers, careers advisers, IT teachers, parents, and carers to promote job opportunities available in IT throughout NI. Our mission is to ensure that IT companies have an ongoing pipeline of skilled talent fit for industry needs.

Events:

Our events focus on all pathways and careers in IT, including Cyber Security. Throughout the year, we run events for:

- People not in Education, Employment or Training
- Young women
- Teachers
- People with additional neuro-diverse needs
- Parents

You can find out about all our upcoming events at Bring IT On

Videos:

What's next after your GCSEs? - YouTube

What's next after your A-Levels? - YouTube



CADETS

Introduction

The Cadet Forces' Vision is
'Providing a challenging and stimulating contemporary cadet experience that develops and inspires young people within a safe environment'.

The training and development offered by the Cadet Forces continually evolves. In addition, new opportunities are offered as a result of specific national initiatives. The Cadets CyberFirst programme was launched in September 2018 by the Secretary of State for Defence. The GCHQ National Cyber Security Centre aims to equip up to 2,000 cadets a year with the skills and expertise that will encourage them to become future leaders in the emerging cyber security sector.



What do you gain from being a cadet?

Through participation in the Cadet Forces, you will be able to gain skills in:

- The ability to communicate clearly, to diverse audiences, through formal and informal presentations and in discussions and interviews
- The ability to lead a group of people to achieve an objective. This key skill includes the ability to plan and to communicate that plan, as well as being able to control, motivate and encourage a team to succeed
- The resilience to keep going, even when things go wrong or the situation is not helpful
- The ability to work as a member of a team, sharing views and helping others, while being able to take instructions and orders from the team leader
- The ability to use social skills, including different behaviours, to achieve positive outcomes
- The understanding that people are not the same, and the ability to accept diversity and work with the different talents that people have
- The personal confidence to utilise key skills in different situations and with different people.

DfE CAREERS SERVICE

Contact a Careers Adviser

The Department for the Economy's Careers Service provides professional and impartial careers advice and guidance to help you make informed choices about your future career.

Careers advisers can help you with the following:

- Choosing subjects for study at school, college or university
- Current and future job trends
- Job search techniques
- CVs
- Application forms
- Interview preparation

How do I contact a careers adviser?

- Ask your careers teacher to arrange an interview for you with a careers adviser (if you are still at school).
- Log on to webchat with a careers adviser (Monday to Friday, 9.30am to 4.30pm) or ask questions online.
- Phone 0300 200 7820 to speak with an adviser (Monday to Friday, 9.30am to 4.30pm).
- **Ask Careers a question** - use the Careers Service online form to Ask Careers a Question



FEEDBACK

The COIU team welcomes your feedback on the content of this bulletin, to help inform future bulletins. If you have any comments, please email the mailbox COIU@economy-ni.gov.uk

Please note, the references to websites within this publication are intended to facilitate further careers research. The Department is not responsible for the content of external websites. The information in this bulletin is correct at the time of publishing, however, may be subject to change at any time.