Alaa Qassab

📍 London | 📞 07481 950325

🌐 Email| GitHub |Linkedin

Professional Summary

Junior Full-Stack Developer with strong foundations in **JavaScript, React, Node.js, HTML, and CSS**, developed through intensive bootcamps and hands-on, project-based learning. I am a career-changer with a background in business ownership and accounting, which has equipped me with strong analytical thinking, attention to detail, and a practical approach to problem-solving.
I have experience building and contributing to small and medium-sized full-stack applications, working both independently and within collaborative, Agile team environments. I am comfortable following GitHub workflows, participating in code reviews, and breaking down requirements into manageable development tasks.

Technical Skills
Programming Languages
- JavaScript (ES6+), with experience in modular code, asynchronous programming, and API consumption
- HTML5, including semantic markup and accessibility best practices
- CSS3, including responsive layouts, Flexbox, and basic Grid usage

Frameworks & Libraries
- React for building component-based user interfaces and managing application state
- Express.js for building RESTful APIs and server-side logic

Databases
- PostgreSQL: basic relational database design, querying, and working with migrations
- MongoDB: experience with document-based data models and CRUD operations

Tools & Technologies
- Git and GitHub for version control, branching, and collaboration
- WebSockets for real-time communication features
- REST APIs for client–server interaction
- Basic experience with AWS services (EC2, deployment fundamentals)

Ways of Working
- Agile and iterative development
- Pair programming and collaborative problem-solving
- Writing and running unit tests
- Participating in code reviews and incorporating feedback
- Basic deployment and environment configuration

Junior Software Development Experience
CodeYourFuture – Full-Stack Web Development Programme
October 2024 – January 2026

An intensive, long-term programme focused on full-stack web development, teamwork, and professional software development practices.
- Built and contributed to **full-stack web applications** using React, Node.js, Express, and PostgreSQL
- Worked on projects in **team-based environments**, following Agile workflows, sprint planning, and task prioritisation
- Used GitHub for version control, pull requests, and peer code reviews
- Practised analysing requirements, breaking them down into small development tasks, and implementing features incrementally

Key Projects

Q&A Web Application (Launch Module)
- Contributed to the development of a full-stack question-and-answer platform
- Implemented features such as question creation, tagging, and user authentication
- Worked with relational databases, including table design and basic migrations
- Gained experience debugging deployment and database-related issues

Real-Time Chat Application
- Built a real-time messaging application using **Node.js and WebSockets**
- Implemented chat rooms, user sessions, and message persistence
- Improved understanding of event-driven programming and real-time data flow

TV Show Application
- Developed a front-end application consuming external APIs using JavaScript
- Applied modular code structure to improve maintainability

Founders and Coders – Coding Foundation Skills Bootcamp
January 2024 – April 2024

A foundational bootcamp focused on core web technologies, JavaScript fundamentals, and practical project work.
- Built multiple small applications to strengthen **core JavaScript and web development fundamentals**
- Designed and developed a **responsive Travel Agency website**, prioritising accessibility, layout consistency, and user experience
- Developed a **Blog application** using Node.js, Express, MongoDB, and EJS templates, implementing full CRUD functionality
- Built a **Discord chatbot** using JavaScript and the OpenAI API
- Deployed the chatbot on **AWS EC2**, using YAML configuration and Git-based workflows

Transferable Experience
Peaceful Borders Charity – Refugee Support Worker
September 2018 – Present
- Supported unaccompanied minors and refugees with legal, educational, and integration-related matters
- Acted as a communication bridge between individuals and organisations, demonstrating strong interpersonal and listening skills
- Worked closely with multidisciplinary teams in high-responsibility environments
- Organised educational and recreational activities, including English lessons and community events

Retail Store Owner – Qassab Store
2004 – 2013
- Owned and managed a successful food retail business, overseeing day-to-day operations
- Managed staff recruitment, training, and supervision
- Handled budgeting, procurement, inventory management, and supplier relationships
- Developed strong organisational, decision-making, and customer-focused skills
- Gained extensive experience translating real-world needs into practical solutions

Education
Commercial Intermediate Institute
University of Aleppo, Syria.

CodeYourFuture, London, UK
Software Development.

Certifications
- The Complete JavaScript Course – Udemy
- AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner (CLF-C02)
- DevOps Beginners to Advanced with Projects – Udemy (ongoing)