

CATHERINE PULMAN

JUNIOR SOFTWARE DEVELOPER | London

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PERSONAL STATEMENT

I first discovered the joys of coding through animatronic puppet building, where I was introduced to Arduino. In my attempts to learn the basics, I discovered that I loved the logical thinking and problem-solving that programming involves. In my latest role with Atom Learning, I found myself increasingly drawn towards the development of systems to improve efficiency, using Excel. Whilst not programming per-se, this involved a similar logical approach. The Software Development bootcamp at NorthCoders has proven to me that programming is both constantly challenging, but incredibly satisfying, which is exactly what I am looking for in a long-term career.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Languages:** JavaScript, using Node.js and browsers as environment
- **Testing:** TDD, Jest, Supertest
- **Back-end:** SQL, PSQL, seeding, migrations
- **Front-end:** HTML, CSS, React
- **Hosting:** Supabase, Render, Netlify
- **Other:** Paired programming, technical communication, Agile and SCRUM methodologies, Figma

EDUCATION

BA (Hons) Natural Sciences, University of Cambridge: 1st (2013)

Biological Sciences with Part II in History and Philosophy of Science

A-levels in Biology, Chemistry, Maths and French (all grade A) (2009)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Software Development Student (April – July 2024)

NorthCoders

- Three-month intensive Software Development bootcamp, covering all aspects of full-stack development in JavaScript, using Node.js.
- Developed my coding and technical communication skills through daily lectures, seminars, katas, pair-programming challenges and both solo and group project work.
- Created and hosted my own API which I then used in a front-end hosted news site. This solo project gave me experience in the end-to-end process of developing, testing and hosting an API, and then designing a front-end site in React to interact with it according to a set of user stories. I also enjoyed having the opportunity to work on my layout and design using CSS styling, based on considerations of visual appeal, user experience and accessibility.
- Created a full-stack web and Android React Native application in two weeks for my final project with 2 other developers. The app is designed to help tourists plan their trips in a new city and involves integration with the Google Maps API as well as our own API.

Content Creator (Feb 2021 – April 2024)

Atom Learning – Education Tech Company

- Produced and implemented large volumes of high quality, user-friendly and aesthetically pleasing Key Stage 2 educational content under tight deadlines.
- Initiated and developed systems using Excel to create questions automatically, improving efficiency at scale.

Forest School Practitioner (Sep 2020 – August 2021)

Into the Woods Forest School

- Delivered the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum in London's first entirely outdoor-based nursery. I was the key person to 10 children under 5 years old, including some with special educational needs.
- Entertaining, educating and keeping young children safe in a public woodland required high levels of energy, imagination and responsibility, as well as excellent communication and teamwork with other staff members.

Launch Team (Jul – Sep 2020)

TopUp Truck – Hackney's first zero-waste mobile grocery shop

- Worked one-to-one with the founder to help launch the business. Involved in all aspects of the business, ranging from market research and competitor analysis to forecasting, pricing and logistics planning.

Montessori Practitioner (Sep 2019 – Jun 2020)

Bethnal Green Montessori School

- Worked closely with the lead teacher to maintain a calm and purposeful classroom of 2 to 5-year-olds, delivering the EYFS curriculum in line with Montessori principles.
- Played an instrumental role in the delivery of an online nursery experience throughout the Covid lockdown period. This involved daily video calls with children and their families, as well as distribution of resources and home-made videos.

Secretary (Nov 2017 – Sep 2018)

CHASE Africa - Healthcare and tree-planting charity working with partners in East Africa

- Developed and implemented key policies for the charity and its partners.
- Managed partner reporting, and worked with the Oxford Institute of Population Ageing to re-design the data reporting system.
- Involved in marketing and social media management, as well as re-designing and developing the website.

Senior Account Executive (Apr - Aug 2017)

Planning and Biddable Account Executive (Aug 2015 - Apr 2017)

Essence Digital - Digital Marketing Agency

- Planned and executed high budget (£1m+) digital marketing campaigns for the Google and Hewlett-Packard brands across social, search and YouTube channels.
- Negotiated directly with online publishers to purchase advertising space for campaigns.
- Analysed and presented campaign results to clients.

Quantitative and Qualitative Assistant - Contract job (Mar - Jun 2015)

Basis Research – Customer research and insight consultancy

Sales Analyst and PA to Head of Sales (Jul 2014 - Mar 2015)

FDM Group – Training and recruitment agency for the technology sector

HOBBIES & INTERESTS

In recent years, I have developed an interest in making dolls and puppets, and have enjoyed bringing various characters to life (<https://www.instagram.com/plastifreak/>)! This led me to getting in touch with some professional animatronic puppet makers, who I spent considerable time with, learning skills in this area, and working with them on an exciting sheep costume project involving animatronics, which you can see at <https://www.instagram.com/reel/Cr3LJCuUXk>. I also love cooking, running, cycling and climbing.