# Isaac Patrickson

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## PERSONAL PROFILE

In June 2022 I completed my A-level studies at Whitburn Academy and although I enjoyed my time at Whitburn, I was excited to move onto the next phase of my life. The year before I made the decision to take a GAP year rather than go to university. It had been an intense few years with GCSEs, then A-levels, with the pandemic making everything just that little bit harder. I had missed out on my Prom and lots of other social event and couldn’t really take advantage of the long post GCSE summer due to the restrictions. I wanted to take some time to explore the world and explore my options for the future.

Taking a GAP year has been one of the best decisions I’ve made and I’m making the most of it. It has given me time to focus on my hobbies (rowing and music), take on additional hours at work (as a lifeguard) and delve deeper into the world of working in IT. I already have some travel plans in place; I have secured a position as a lifeguard/camp councillor at Camp Chipinaw, Swan Lake, New York from June to September 23 and plan to travel around Canada for a few months before hand (April/May).

The world of computer science is expansive and the career options numerous, my A-level studies could only really give me a small taster of the different aspects and didn’t really give me any information regarding the realities of working in the industry. The primary reasons for taking a GAP year, was to give me time to gain a greater understanding of the different branches of computer science, get a flavour of what it would be like to work in the different areas and to gain clarity about my own preferences.

During my Computer Science A-level I studied Python, SQL and Shell Scripting with Linux, however, I’ve used this time to expand my knowledge of computer languages. I’ve completed a Java beginners’ course and used it to produce a mortgage calculator and I’ve also completed some Python projects. I am currently working through an (ISC)2 Certified in Cyber Security course, which has helped me realise that Cyber Security is not a route I want to take. I’ve been familiarising myself with Git and GitHub and plan to collaborate on projects to increase my understanding of the real world of software development. I’ve also completed a six-week level five DevOps course where I learned how merging development and operations teams effectively can maximise value for stakeholders and customers. This course put my python and GitHub skills to the test as plenty of practical assignments were set each week.

## EDUCATION

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Educational establishment or course organiser | Qualifications | Grade | Date Achieved |
| Whitburn Church of England Academy | A-levels: Computer Science, Physics, Maths  AS level Film Studies | A, B, B  B | June 2022 |
| Whitburn Church of England Academy | GCSEs: Biology, Maths, Physics, RS, Geography, History, Chemistry, Computer Science,  English Language, English Literature | 9, 8, 8, 8, 7  7,7,7  7,7 | June 2020 |

## OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Educational establishment or course organiser | Qualifications | Grade | Date Achieved |
| Washington Leisure Centre  RLSS | National Pool Lifeguard Qualification (NPLQ) | Successfully Completed | February 2022 |
| Harton Academy  Duke of Edinburgh | Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award | Expedition completed | September 2021 |
| Harton Academy  Duke of Edinburgh | Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award | Expedition completed | October 2019 |
| Whitburn Church of England Academy  Duke of Edinburgh | Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award | Expedition completed | February 2019 |
| ABRSM | Alto Saxophone Classical Grade 5 | Pass | December 2019 |
| PADI | Advanced Open Water Scuba Diver | Successfully completed | December 2017 |

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Employer | Job Title, Role, and Responsibilities | Date of Employment | Reason for leaving |
| Haven Point Leisure Centre  South Shields | **Lifeguard**  Ensure pool users have a safe and enjoyable visit. Spot hazards, prevent accidents and give advice on water safety. First aid trained. | 12/05/2022 – Current | N/A |
| Grand Hotel  Sunderland | **Conference & Banqueting Porter**  Provide excellent customer service. Working as a team to ensure special events run smoothly. Set up, cleaning and service. | Sep 2021 – Nov 2021 | Part time Job while studying |
| Saggezza  Sunderland Software City | **Software development work experience**  Support with the development and implementation of the company's  intranet system. Shadowed developers. | Jul 2019 – Jul 2019 | One week work experience placement |
| Sunderland Rowing Club | **Volunteer and Junior Coach**  Help with marshalling at events and competitions.  Sports leadership including coaching younger rowing teams. | Feb 2019 – Current | N/A |

## SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES

* I am hard-working and I always try to lead by example.
* I am naturally outgoing, approachable and enthusiastic, which makes it easy for me to connect with people on all levels, both personally and professionally.
* I am a confident leader but also enjoy being part of a team.
* I have excellent communication skills both verbal and written.
* I can prioritise work, which allows me to ensure that challenging deadlines are met.
* I have strong IT skills; I’m proficient in the Python programming language with advanced knowledge in SQL. I’ve worked with the Linux terminal when developing databases for a Raspberry PI and I have taken a beginners’ course on Java.
* I understand the importance data security and how computers communicate with each other.
* I am keen to receive feedback and act on new ideas or criticism.
* I believe self-reflection is a great tool to drive self-improvement and I’m constantly striving to do better.

## HOBBIES AND INTERESTS

**Outdoors**

I love the outdoors and enjoy a variety of outdoor activities. I particularly enjoy rowing, skiing, scuba diving, climbing, and hiking. I am a qualified PADI Advanced Open Water scuba diver and I enjoy travelling around the world to dive in warm exotic waters. We have a Siberian Husky and regularly spend days walking him in the Lake District. Most years we spend a week in the Lake District on an outdoor activity holiday.

**Travelling**

I have a passion for travel and in the future would like to go abroad at least once a year. I enjoy visiting places where I can combine cultural visits, physical activities and relaxing in the sun. Some of my favourite places that I’ve visited are Mexico, Greece, Thailand, USA, Egypt and Finland. I’d love to combine my love of skiing with visiting new places by going on a trip to the French Alps with my friends.

**Health and Fitness**

I enjoy rowing, running, swimming and going to the gym. I attend rowing training sessions 4 to 5 times a week and also go to the gym every weekday early morning. I started running to improve my stamina for rowing and it has now become an enjoyable activity where I can socialise with my friends. I have rowed competitively in the North East and have won many races.