# KAI USHER

EMAIL: kai.usher97@gmail.com MOBILE: 07380 543234 PORTFOLIO: www.kaiusher.com

# ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

2015-2019 Computer Science with Artificial Intelligence (BSc), Loughborough University, UK

Modules including: Human-Computer Interaction, Computer Graphics, Programming for the WWW, Software Engineering, Databases, Embedded Systems, Server Side Programming and Mobile App Development.

First/second year result: First (With a predicted First at end of study).

2008-2015 Northampton Academy, Northamptonshire, UK

A-Levels: Computer Science (A), Geography (B), Mathematics (C)

AS-Level: Physics (C)

GCSEs: 12 qualifications (ranging from A\* to B) including English (A) and Mathematics (A)

Throughout my time at Northampton Academy I was a member of the Able and Talented register which

represented the top 5% of the school.

#### **EXPERIENCE**

June 2017

IBM - Blockchain Software Developer Intern (1 year)

- Worked as a software developer in the IBM Blockchain team.
- Developed production ready open-source software was involved with the complete development process from planning and coding to testing and deployment.
- Worked with design teams to undertake various research tasks and understand how UX design is vital to the success of the product.
- Was part of a big team within a larger organisation so good communication was vital to ensure everyone was aware of progress; this sometimes required working across time zones.
- Gained experience with presenting ideas and work to senior managers and clients.
- Volunteered on 'giveback' events I was an activity host for Xplore IT 2017, an event in which year 5/6 students explore potential careers in technology.

March 2012

in.house.media Web Development and Internet Marketing (2 weeks) – Work Exp.

- Created graphic products, such as website templates, from scratch.
- Developed front-end components of client websites.
- Worked as an integral member of a tight-knit development team that required me to employ good communication skills, whilst also maintaining self-motivation for individual tasks.
- Exact conformance to a specification was vital to ensure client needs were met.

Sept. 2013

McDonalds (2 months)

- Worked in a fast-paced, team environment that dealt with a high volume of customers.
- Established good customer relations to help maintain the major corporation's brand image/ethos.

July 2013

Ecton Brook Primary School (4 weeks) - Volunteering

- Focused on assisting IT lessons; including helping students of ranging ability and setting up lessons.
- Gained valuable communication skills due to having to adapt depending on the environment.

### POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY

## Sept. 2016 Peer Mentoring (1 Academic Year)

- I was the peer mentor for a group of eight Computer Science students in the year below me.
- The role was focused around being a support figure for the students and helping them with any queries they have; this ranged from academic problems to confidential personal support.
- Planning mentoring sessions allowed me to develop leadership, management, and organisational skills.

# 2013-2015 Student Leadership Team

- Member of the Northampton Academy Student Leadership Team throughout my time at sixth form.
- This role involved representing the sixth form on open days for prospective students, guiding visitors around the school, and ensuring that the views of the sixth form were always fairly expressed.
- It was vital to exhibit a professional manner in this role and always communicate clearly, either with members of the public or colleagues.

## **SKILLS**

Programming Experience with a range of programming languages including: HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript, Python, Java, and PHP. Further experience with dev. tools using APIs, artificial intelligence and data science.

Design Experience with a range of design tools and methodologies including: Adobe Creative Suite

(Illustrator, XD, InDesign, Photoshop), Sketch, Design Thinking, wireframing and prototyping.

Communication My ability to communicate effectively was essential throughout my time in employment and

voluntary work. Due to the diversity of the roles, I was required to communicate with co-workers, managers and children in an appropriate manner. Whilst working at IBM my communication skills drastically improved as I was discussing work with co-located team members, educating on calls to the community, delivering presentations to senior management and conducting research

workshops.

Team Work Successful team work has been present in both employment and my degree. Functioning as a team

was vital at IBM due to being a part of a close-knit development team following an Agile workflow;

tasks were often shared which meant smart allocation and coordination was key.

Problem Solving Problem solving is a key component in any computing project as the inherent aim is to produce an

efficient and optimised end product. The nature of my degree, and personal projects, means that I

have exhibited this skill on numerous occasions.

Time Management Throughout my studies I have managed my time in an efficient manner in order to meet all academic

deadlines, coordinate peer mentor meetings, establishing a good work/life balance, and progress in

personal side-projects.

#### **INTERESTS**

Design As my degree and experience in the technology industry has progressed I have found myself being

more and more drawn to the design side of projects. Understanding how users interact with systems and how those systems can be designed to enhance efficiency and enjoyment is a big motivator for

me. I have also been designing logos both as a hobby and for work over the last year.

Running/Fitness I have always had an interest in health and fitness which stems from my desire to push myself and be

the best possible person I can be. I am an avid runner and highly enjoy the process of setting myself

manageable goals to train towards and achieve.

Music I play guitar and bass, both of which were self-taught, and also allowed me to play in a school band.

#### REFERENCES

Available on request