

T-Levels

Ada is the country's top performing sixth form college for Computer Science in England. Computing is at the core of our curriculum and our teachers are qualified specialists in Computer Science with many years of accompanying industry expertise.



What is the Digital T-Level?

Our new Digital T Level is the academic equivalent of three A Levels and it has been developed in partnership with top employers including ARM, BBC and Cisco. This rigorous qualification provides students with the knowledge and skills to be effective junior software developers and data analysts.





The T-Level curriculum

This Level 3 Program comprises of a Core Component, an Occupational Specialist Component and an Industry placement. Students develop both in-depth knowledge and practical skills in:

- Problem solving
- Programming (full-stack development)
- Legislation and regulatory requirements
- Business context (including UX/UI)
- Data (including Database Development)
- Digital environments (including Networking)
- Cyber Security





Up to 30 day employer placement

The Industry placements can be across two employers and and would typically be 20-30 days of which 50% can be remote. The placement can be taken either in multi-week blocks, 2 days per week (ideally Thursday and Friday) or a combination between Summer 2025 and Summer 2026.



Diverse digital talent

Many of our students come from underrepresented backgrounds and partnering with Ada helps you to build a more diverse workforce and obtain fresh perspectives. We also support you to grow your organisation's talent pipeline. A placement can be considered 'an extended job interview'. In addition, taking on T level students also gives your staff the opportunity to develop their mentoring skills and gain line management experience.



Ada supports you

As a partner of Ada, you will receive full support throughout the placement process from Tom Fogden, our Dean and Mark Campbell our Assistant Principal. If you have any questions or would like to come to visit us at Ada, please email Tom@ada.ac.uk.

Over the page are some FAQs that you might find useful.









T Levels FAQs

What does my business gain?

Our students come with a great understanding of software development, which they have gained in Yr 12. They join your teams in their Yr 13 and are committed, dedicated and ready to work. It can also enable staff members to gain leadership experience. Please see a few case studies at the bottom of the page.

What will the students do?

We work with you to identify the best fit for you and the student. For example, students can be set to work on projects, day to day business or set specific challenges. We will help guide you throughout with regular check-ins. Students will have expertise in programming, data analytics, networking, websites and cyber security.

What is the timing for the placement?

Placement opportunities are available from June 2025 - June 2026. This will be after their first full year of study and after successfully completing their exams. These placements can also be split between 2 employers.

What support will my business receive during this time?

Ada's team will work with you and support you all the way: pre placement and during the placement. With regular check-ins, helping you set the students' tasks and refine deliverables.

What will my business need to do to support the student?

You will need to provide a mentor - if your organisation has more than 1 student, the mentor can look after a group of up to 7. Ada will provide full support to your mentor, including training and DBS checks if they are required. Your company would also be expected to pay for travel expenses and lunch as a minimum so the students are not at a financial disadvantage for working for you.

How do I get a T-level Student who is studying Digital Software Development?

Contact Tom@ada.ac.uk who will guide you through the process.

What are the different types of placements?

Here are 3 scenarios to demonstrate some possible options:

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- Worked for a medium tech company, 2 days a week for 3 months and a 2 week block.
- This included developing and testing software and supporting a project development team.
- He is confident that he'll be successful in his application to Lancaster University to study Computer Science.

Aydah

- Worked at a small charity for 2 days a week for 6 months.
- This involved working with Salesforce supporting the configuration of a new CRM.
- Aydah has been offered a 6 month internship at the charity and is excited to start this post graduation.

Sam

- Worked at a large consultancy as part of a team on 2 distinct projects, one in werbsite development and one focused on data dashboards.
- This work placement was spread over 2 separate 2 week blocks.
- He is keen to apply to a Degree
 Apprenticeship Programme at the
 consultancy.