Mark Nixon

Software Tester

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Date of Birth: 2nd June 2004

Personal Profile

My name is Mark Nixon, I am a Software tester with a BCS Level 4 Software Testing qualification, passionate about advancing my skills in diverse testing scenarios. Eager to deepen my understanding of software development practices, broaden my proficiency in programming languages, and contribute effectively to high-quality software solutions.

Personal Skills

- I have good written and verbal communication skills.
- I have strong work ethic.
- I enjoy working as a team whilst also being comfortable in taking the lead.
- I have effective time management skills.
- Strong learning ability, quickly picking up new ways of working, ideas, subjects, and technologies.
- Great Understanding of HTML, CSS, JavaScript, Python, SQL, React, Typescript and Java
- Great Understanding tools like GitHub, Jira

Experience

Software Testing Apprenticeship – Stalis

Dates (e.g., Sept 2022 – Jan 2024)

During my apprenticeship, I gained practical experience in functional and non-functional testing, the software testing lifecycle, Agile methodologies, automation, and accessibility testing. I played a key role in a data archiving project for NHS Trusts, where I independently created test plans, developed and executed test suites, and managed the overall test process. I also worked on verifying NHS database integrity, which strengthened my SQL skills and deepened my understanding of relational databases and data validation.

Current Role – Software Tester, Stalis

Dates (e.g., Jan 2024 – Present)

After finishing my apprenticeship, I have continued to expand my manual and automation testing expertise, while further developing my SQL skills for backend testing and data analysis. I've recently started contributing to front-end development on a React-based project, applying my self-taught knowledge of React in a formal environment. This has also given me valuable experience working with Microsoft SQL databases and understanding how front-end and back-end systems interact in a professional healthcare setting.

Independent Learning & Projects

- Self-taught in HTML, CSS, JavaScript, React, and TypeScript; built and deployed several full-stack web projects like for example I've created 2 versions of a WWE website which has allowed me to learn about web development as well as allowing me to gain experience using firebase databases and authentication for login pages
- Developed a 2D Java game to deepen OOP and performance optimization knowledge.
- Created utility tools such as a Salary Calculator and Image Compressor, integrated into personal projects which has been very useful is day to day life.
- Studied cybersecurity fundamentals and penetration testing techniques.
- Used *TryHackMe* to complete hands-on labs to do with Penetration testing and Ethical Hacking which is expanding on something I learn about in my apprenticeship
- Strengthened understanding of system vulnerabilities and secure coding practices.

Education

Cheadle Hulme High School – 6th form College
September 2020 – June 2022

Subject	Exam	Date of Exam	Achieved Grade
Biology	A Level	August 2022	C
Chemistry	A Level	August 2022	C
Computer Science	A Level	August 2022	B
Core Maths	Level 3 Qualification	May 2021	A
EPQ	Level 3 Qualification	August 2022	B

Software Testing Apprenticeship
September 2022 – January 2024

Qualification	Date of Exam	Achieved Grade
BCS L4 Software Tester Qualification	December 2023 – January 2024	Merit

Hobbies

- I am interested in running right now so I go on regular runs, and I am trying to build my way up to doing a Half Marathon in October
- I like playing games a lot for fun and because of this I've had a go and learnt about creating some of my own games and how that process works.
- I love going swimming and have also worked towards getting my PADI licence with my dad so I can go diving