

# Oliver Beck

After working in fundraising and Special Needs Education for nearly 5 years, in August of 2022 I decided to pursue a new challenge and change careers. I have just completed the 16-week Software Engineering bootcamp at Makers Academy. Whilst I remain passionate about helping others, I hope to find a role more closely aligned with my skill set, where I can channel my desire to make positive change into something innovative and creative. I aspire to find a position where I can build upon my coding skills in a dynamic, collaborative environment, where growth is valued and encouraged. I am a highly motivated and dedicated individual, who loves to work with others, and as such, believe I would make a great addition to any Software Development team.

## Tech Experience

### Graduate | Makers Academy, London | Aug 2022 - Dec 2022

A selective, 16-week coding bootcamp, designed to make graduates job ready for developer roles.

#### Skills Developed:

- **Test-Driven Development:** Learned to build thoroughly test-driven programs, using unit and integration tests (with RSpec and Jest).
- **Object Oriented-Design:** Can develop and structure programs in JavaScript and Ruby using objects and classes, writing easily changeable and readable code.
- **Pair programming and teamwork:** Established fantastic working relationships with peers in daily pairing sessions, utilising my empathetic communication skills to thrive in group projects, both as a team member and leader.
- **Debugging:** Learned the importance of getting visibility when faced with an error and how to follow stack trace messages to find and fix a problem at source.
- **Databases:** Used PostgreSQL, MongoDB, ActiveRecord (ORM) and Mongoose (ODM) to build SQL and NoSQL databases, designing schemas for programs that perform CRUD operations.
- **HTTP requests / APIs:** Made and tested GET and POST requests in multiple web applications and used APIs to populate web pages.
- **Agile workflow:** Followed Agile processes for iterative development, including detailed planning, tickets, stand-ups, sprints and retros.
- **Ability to learn new languages:** Able to self-teach new coding languages and frameworks quickly (learned JavaScript in two weeks after ten weeks of Ruby).
- **Full-stack development:** Built multiple full-stack programs, e.g. 'Acebook', a facebook clone built with a MERN stack, and 'Makersbnb', an Airbnb clone using PostgreSQL, Sinatra and ActiveRecord.

## Work Experience

### Trust Fundraiser | Ambitious about Autism, London | Nov 2019 - Jun 2022

- Managed large portfolio of donor relationships with competing application deadlines. The value of my portfolio was raised each year as I exceeded targets, eventually reaching around £100,000 per year.
- Wrote bespoke fundraising bids (up to £25,000), and reports for high-value donors. Raised over £225,000, receiving an award for Outstanding Contribution thanks to my successful application for two disability minibuses (worth £80,000+).
- Undertook extensive prospect research to identify income growth potential, which involved managing two Prospect Research volunteers.
- Project management, working with school staff, contractors and Heads of Department across fundraising and finance to ensure projects and services ran smoothly, deadlines were met and budgets were followed.

### Fundraising Intern | World Literacy Foundation , London | May 2019 - Nov 2019

- Researching trusts and foundations that aligned with either our Sun Books project in Uganda or our UK based projects, and drafting funding applications.
- Planning, executing and volunteering at events to boost the profile of the charity and solicit donations.

### Special Needs Support Staff | Albion Primary School, London | Aug 2018 - Aug 2019

- Supported autistic children socially, academically and emotionally in all aspects of their school life.
- Planned and delivered tailored lessons, focusing on speech and language development, basic Maths and English, and empathetic and social behaviours.
- Led group sessions for a small class of autistic children, practicing sharing, showing restraint and playing together, utilising a range of sensory equipment to engage the children's attention.

### Classroom Assistant | Sugarman Group, London | Nov 2017 - Aug 2018

- One-to-one classroom assistant, working with children with behavioural issues and special needs.

### Office Administrator | Unitemps, London | Feb 2016 - Aug 2016

- Promoted Unitemps' services through creative advertising and social media drives.
- Delivered presentations to prospective clients selling our internship scheme, resulting in our team exceeding the previous annual record of candidate placements.
- Managed and updated data spreadsheets and co-ordinated mailshots to alumni and student databases.



## Contact

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## Education

### Philosophy (Masters)

University of Amsterdam | 2016-17

Merit | GPA of 79.1% | Awarded grade Distinction for Master's Thesis

### Philosophy (Bachelors)

University of Roehampton | 2012-15

First Class | Awarded Vice Chancellor's Scholarship for academic achievement

## Tech stack

- JavaScript / Ruby
- React
- Node.js / Express .js
- Sinatra
- SQL / PostgreSQL / MongoDB
- ActiveRecord (ORM) / Mongoose (ODM)
- Jest / RSpec
- HTML / CSS / HTTP
- Heroku / Netlify
- Related tech: Postman, TablePlus, Firebase, Excalidraw, Trello, Miro, Excel

## Interests

I love to travel, having backpacked through South America, Asia, Eastern Europe and more. Loyal Liverpool fan and sport lover, (very average golfer). Passionate about neurodiversity and helping others.

[References available upon request.](#)