Creating an Azure Server

The Azure Portal ([https://**portal**.**azure**.com](https://portal.azure.com)) is the main site for administrating and configuring your Azure servers.
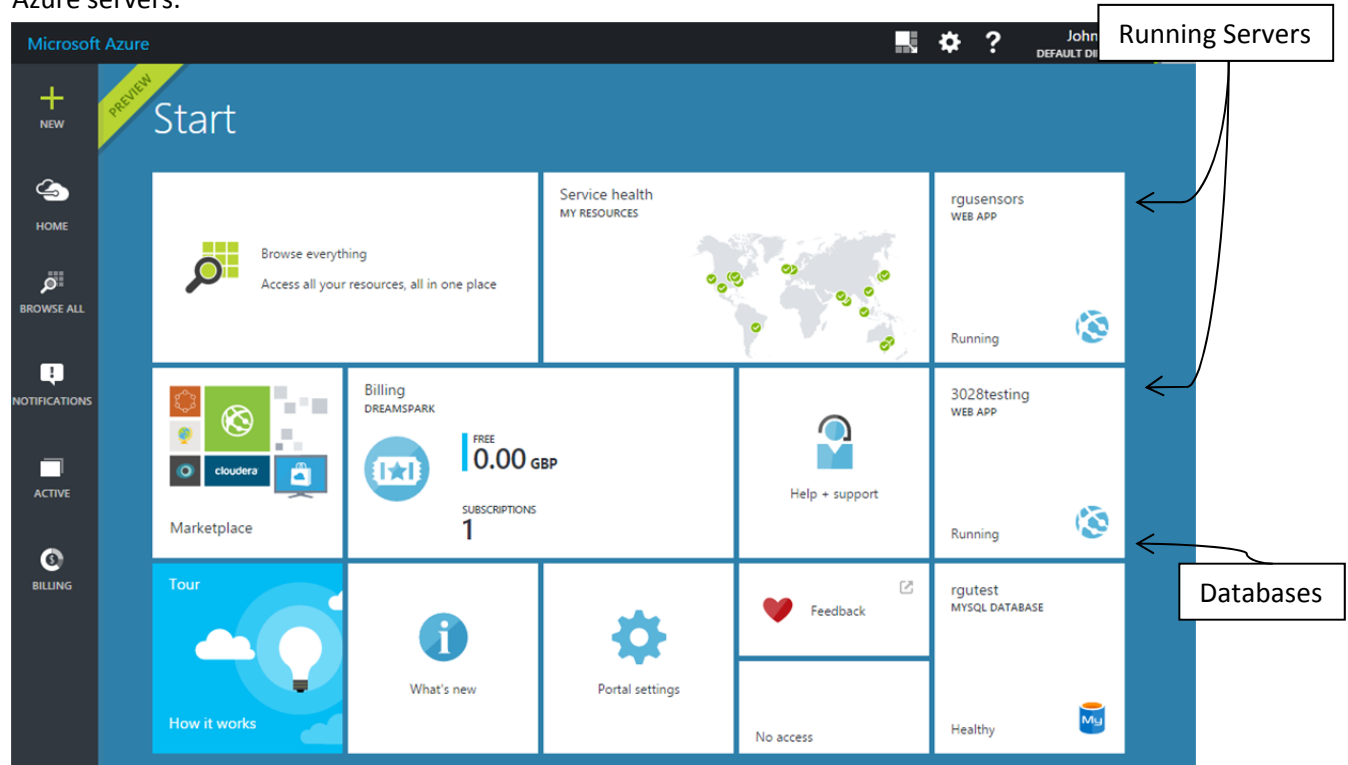

Once you enter the portal proper you should be presented with a screen that looks somethings like that above. Yours may look slightly different as I have already created a few Azure Servers and connected databases.

To create a new server, click the big green cross in the top left hand corner. This will open another screen where you can select the type of server you want to create.
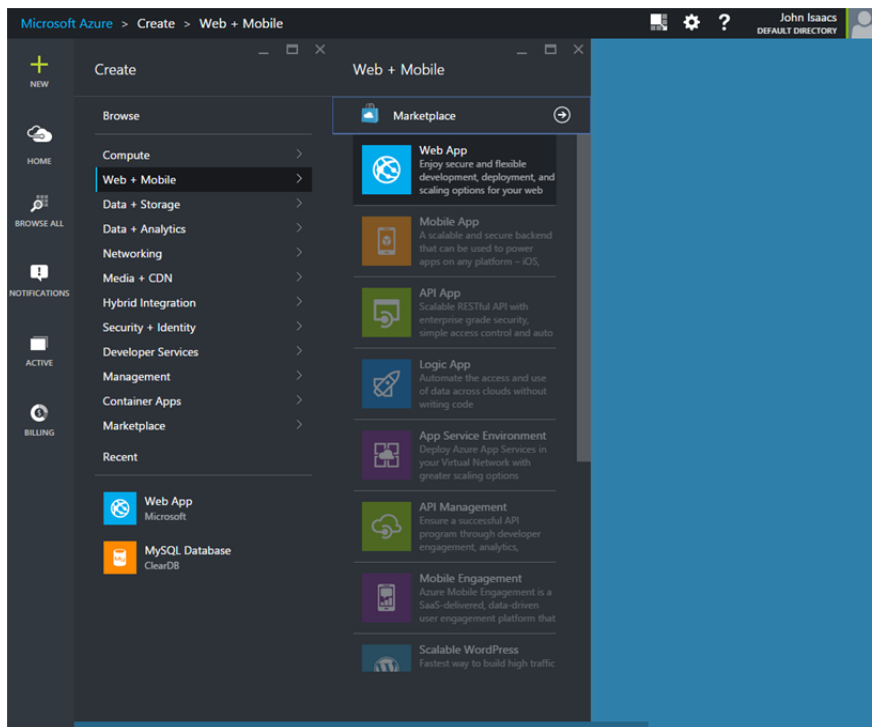
Under the DreamSpark subscription we are limited to certain types of server that we can create. Click **web+mobile** then **Web App**. The Web app field allows you to specify the name (and url) of your web app. For simplicity I would advise that you name this something memorable.
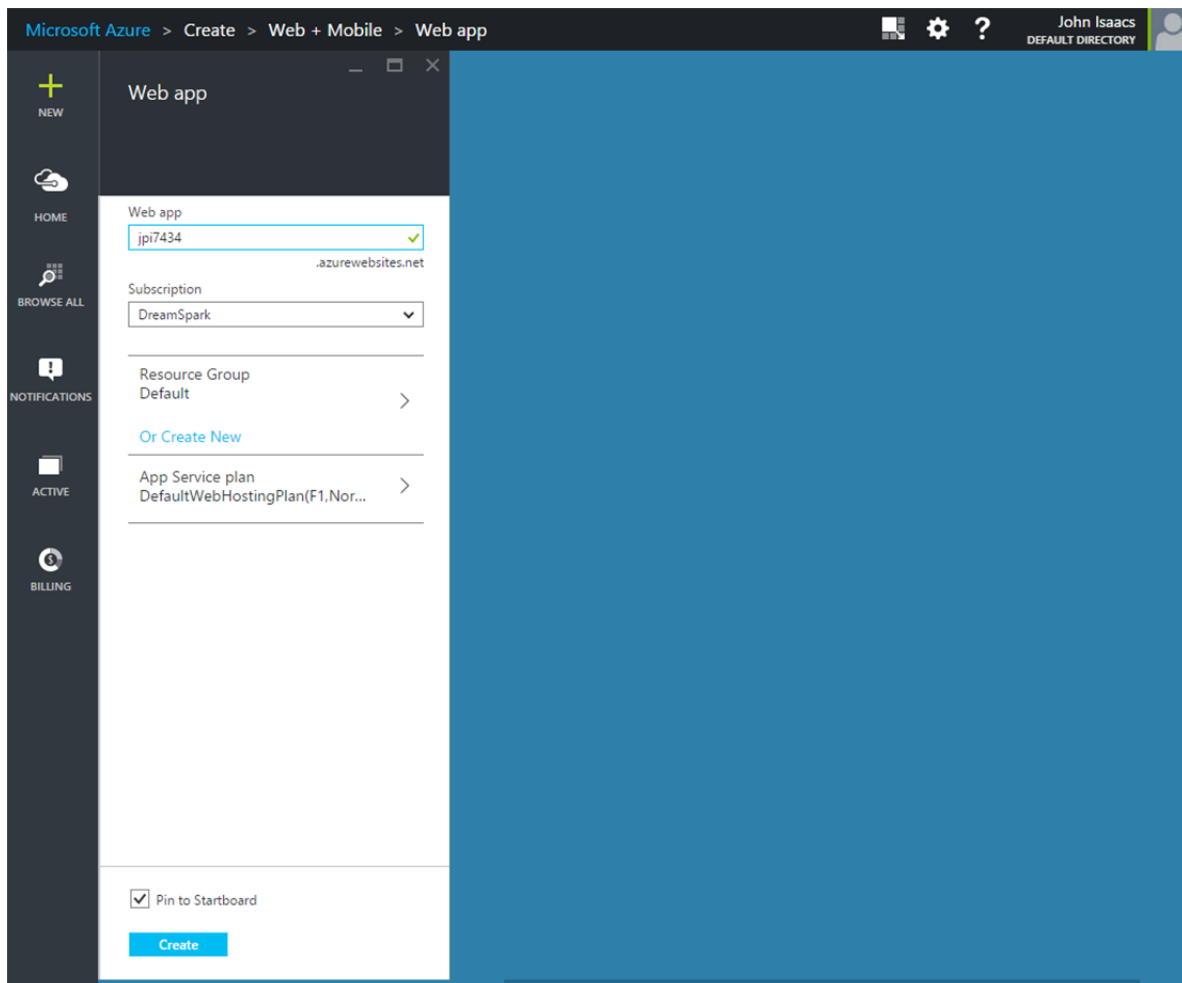
This will give us a basic web server with PHP and Node.js capability. On the confirmation screen (below) just hit create, you will be taken back to the main screen and Azure will begin the deployment process. Once your server is deployed the blue square will change white and display the name you gave your server.

Clicking on this panel will give you access to the configuration pages for the new server.
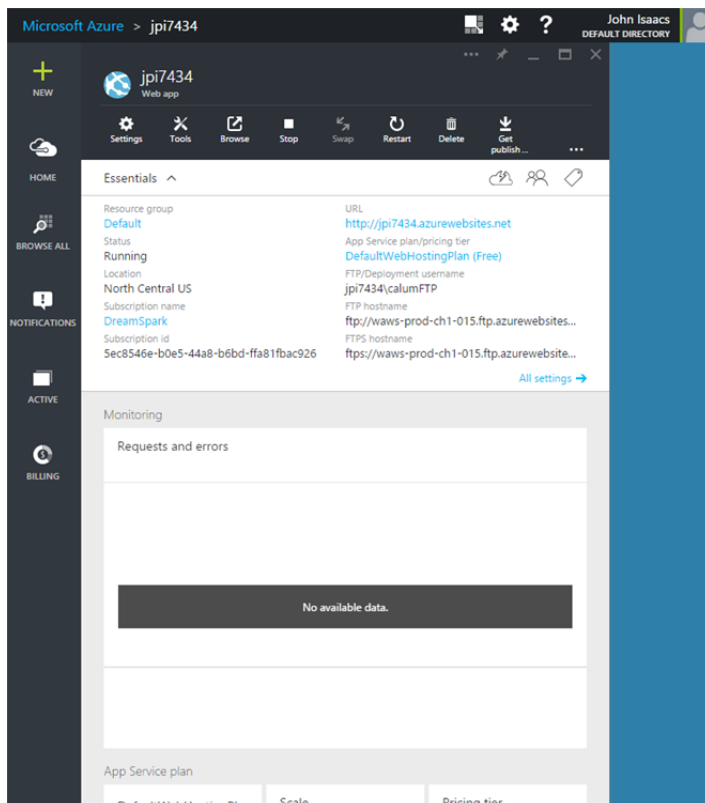
Here you can see various information about the server including its status, its url and its physical location.

Clicking the settings tab gives you access to a number of pages allowing you to configure the site; the most useful settings are under the **Application Settings** tab here we can configure the PHP version along with other frameworks settings such as (python and .NET). For our initial server we can leave these at their default values.