

## Software Development 1.5

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**I can explain how copyright and other constraints may affect the website. Candidates should be able to explain how copyright and licensing work together.**

Whenever a person creates something original, they would have intellectual property to their creation. There are many types of intellectual property such as copyright, trademarks and patents.

In the UK, you don't have to apply for **copyright**. This is automatically granted whenever a person creates original work. If we break down the word itself, it is having the "right" to "copy" a piece of work. According to the Cambridge dictionary, "Copyright is the legal right to control the production and selling of a book, play, film, photograph, or piece of music". Copyright also covers any original content that is uploaded to a website. This means any uploaded photograph or video needs to be either original content, obtained from 'stock' images, or credited to the original creator.

If a person decides to copy someone else's work without full acknowledgement and/or consent from the original creator, this would be **Plagiarism**. There are negative consequences and there is no integrity to copying someone else's work and taking credit.

Sometimes people will allow others to use their work, but only if there is a **license agreement**. A license agreement is a contract that covers the usage of original work between two parties. This will ensure that the original creator receives payment or royalties for the use of their original work. At the same time, the purchaser knows how they can use or reproduce the original work.

There are some people and companies that offer their work as an **Open source resource**. This is when a creator openly distributes their work for public use including the source code. Essentially, the public can use the software for free. There are a lot of open source software available that I use personally such as LibreOffice, Gimp and VLC media player.