

# Firoz Ansari

Senior Android Engineer

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## Profile

I am an experienced mobile developer with 7+ years of commercial native mobile development experience which includes 2 Android apps which have been downloaded more than a million times each and with average rating of 4.3 and above.

I have successfully demonstrated my capability to design, develop and maintain complex mobile apps with clean architecture which are used by millions of users. I have also got proven experience in leading a team and working in an agile test-driven environment, providing support for change, fault and release management.

## Published Apps

**Stagecoach Bus Android App:** The app is currently downloaded more than a million times and ranked 11th in the Google Play UK maps and navigation category (November, 2020) with an average rating of 4.3.

Link: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.stagecoach.stagecoachbus>

**TopCashback apps** (UK, US and India): The UK version of the app has already been downloaded more than a million times and ranked consistently among the top 50 shopping apps in the UK and an average rating of 4.4.

Link: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=uk.co.topcashback.topcashback>

**Gone For Good app:** I developed the Android version of award winning app Gone For Good (Best not for profit award at Big Chip Awards 2016) while I was working for Reason Digital.

Link: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.reasondigital.goneforgood>

**Show and Tell app:** An app designed mainly for children with autism to optimise circus experience.  
[https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=uk.org.circus\\_starr.showandtell&hl=en\\_GB](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=uk.org.circus_starr.showandtell&hl=en_GB)

Other apps include: Biosite Inform app, Safety app for charity National Ugly Mugs and AnsAR (augmented reality app which I developed as a part of my MSc project).

## Technical Skills

**Android:** Since publishing my first app in the play store about 8 years ago, I have developed a deep familiarity with Java, Kotlin, Android Studio and Gradle build system and also have had experience with a variety of tools and technology. To point out a few,

- Advanced experience of working with commonly used Android libraries both from Google and third parties including but not exclusively: Android Jetpack (KTX, CameraX, Navigation, Room, WorkManager), Dagger 2, Retrofit, RxJava, Espresso, Mockito etc.
- Deep familiarity with Google Map SDK (implemented live bus movement on the map).
- Experience of data persistence using Realm and Room.
- Good understanding of architectural patterns like MVP, MVVM and MVI.
- Applied knowledge of SOLID principles, design patterns, data structure and algorithms.
- Proficient with reactive programming (RxJava and RxKotlin).
- In-depth experience of developing complex user interfaces and implementing custom animations/ transitions.
- Connecting to external data sources and APIs (using JSON, REST, XML etc.)
- Strong knowledge of application security principles, cryptography and secure coding practices.
- Third party SDK and API integration like AWS, Firebase, Facebook, Braintree etc.

- Advanced experience of version control (Git), unit testing (JUnit), Project Management (JIRA) CI/CD (Jenkins, Bitrise), code quality tools (JaCoCo, Detekt, SonarQube).
- Experience of integrating Analytics (Google), Crash Reporting (Fabric/ Firebase/ Sentry) and Performance Profiling Providers (Firebase) and Push notification.
- Experience of writing and maintaining unit Tests as well as the UI Tests for robustness, including edge cases, usability, and general reliability following TDD approach.
- Experience in identifying, debugging and resolving complex production issues.
- Experience of mentoring and supporting other developers through pair programming and knowledge share.
- Continuously discover, evaluate, and implement new technologies to maximize development efficiency.

**iOS:** Although my current iOS experience mostly involves working on a few Github personal projects using Swift, I have done bug fixing/ code reviews / release on commercially available iOS apps (Stagecoach, TopCashback and Gone For Good). My iOS experience includes

- Solid experience developing native iOS applications using Swift.
- Solid experience with Xcode IDE, including defining interfaces using Interface Builder, Storyboards and XIBs with Auto Layout.
- Good experience with native Apple frameworks including Foundation, UIKit, Core Data, Core Animation, Core Graphics and Core Text.
- Good knowledge and understanding of app architecture (MVC, MVVM and VIPER), modularisation, frameworks and CocoaPods/ Carthage/ Swift Package Manager.
- Experience with XCTest in particular and unit/ UI testing in general.

## Employment History

### **Biosite Systems/ Assa Abloy Group, Solihull**

December 2020 - March 2021

Position held: Senior Android Engineer

Brief description: As a senior engineer, I worked on an Android app called Biosite Inform which utilises MVI, Rx, Kotlin and Clean Architecture. Biosite Inform help in design and complete digital forms online and offline - designed for use within the construction industry. The app features Digital Forms, Workflows and Snagging (Defect Management) to dramatically reduce paperwork and free up time to manage project progress on site through real-time mobile collaboration.

### **Stagecoach Group Plc, Manchester**

October 2018 - November 2020

Position held: Android Tech Lead / Senior Software Engineer

Brief description: As Android Tech Lead, I managed and mentored a team of developers while working hands-on. Apart from maintaining and adding functionalities to existing Stagecoach apps (Stagecoach UK Bus app, Oxford Tube app etc.), I contributed to the vision and long-term technical strategy. The UK Bus app is currently downloaded more than a million times and ranked 13th in the Google Play UK maps and navigation category (Oct, 2020). My most notable contribution to the app was the implementation of a live map displaying real time bus movement feature in the current Stagecoach Bus Android app. During COVID-19 crisis, I implemented "busy bus" functionality which helped customers visualise how busy a bus was for social distancing purposes. Another notable contribution of mine was the Google Pay integration in the app during the Google Pay event at Google London office where I also did a technical presentation on it.

### **TopCashback Ltd, Horwich, Greater Manchester**

May 2016 - October 2018

Position held: Mobile Developer

Brief description: At Topcashback, I was solely responsible for improving and maintaining the TopCashback Android apps (UK, US and Indian versions), adding functionalities and giving users high quality and innovative experience. The UK app has already been downloaded more than half a million times and ranked consistently among the top 50 shopping apps in the UK. During my time, 130K+ TopCashback members used the app regularly every month with 99.9% crash free app sessions. I contributed not only to the app user experience redesign, but also wrote clean and efficient code using SOLID principles using latest Android APIs and libraries to make it robust and successful.

I had also experienced of working at the .NET mobile server consisting of mobile service and cashback data service written in C#/VB.NET and a portal for bespoke mobile contents using Angular and .NET Core 2.0.

Apart from my usual development duties, I have also done interviews for developers and mentored junior developers in the mobile team.

**Reason Digital Ltd, Manchester**

July 2014 - May 2016

Position held: Software Developer

Brief description: As an Android developer, I was Involved in several Android projects including Gone For Good app, Show and Tell app and NUM Safety app which demonstrate my capabilities as a strong Android developer.

I also contributed to several .NET projects including 1Med (a bespoke CMS for Manchester Medical School) and MyKindaFuture (<https://www.mykindafuture.com/>). My experience includes implementing functionality like contextual help, document conversion, full-text document search etc in C#.

**Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester**

Jan 2014 - July 2014

Position held: Data Quality Analyst (Strategic Planning and Management Information department)

Main responsibilities involve supporting the effective running of Strategic Planning and Management Information processes, in particular supporting the design and implementation of data quality processes and systems.

**Assessment and Qualifications Alliance (AQA), Manchester, UK** May 2008 - July 2012

Positions held: Clerical Officer, Assistant Logistics Administrator, General Assistant and General Marker.

Brief descriptions of responsibilities:

- Handled multifaceted clerical and data analysing tasks (e.g., data entry, filing, records management).
- Communicated effectively with both internal and external customers.
- Troubleshoot and solve customer problems, identifying rapid solutions.
- Effectively worked in a team and helped others in achieving deadlines.
- Demonstrated top-notch organizational skills, with ability to prioritize and multitask.

**Bankra D. Q. High Madrasah** (A government funded secondary school in India) 2002-2008

Position held: Teacher of English and ICT.

- Prepared and delivered lessons to the students appearing for the GCSE equivalent.
- Monitored student performance and gave guidance and support to underperformed students.
- Carried out assessment and administrative tasks.
- Elected secretary of the Staff Council and elected member of the Governing Body.
- Attended external conferences, meetings and professional development seminars.

**Faizul Quran High School** (A private secondary school in India)

1999-2002

Position held: Teacher of English and ICT.

- Prepared and delivered lessons to the students appearing for the GCSE equivalent.
- Carried out assessment and administrative tasks.

## Education and Training

**MSc Computing** (Manchester Metropolitan University, UK) (**Distinction**) 2012-2013

Course modules included MSc Project, Enterprise Programming, Advanced Database System, Information System Management and Strategy, Object Oriented Programming, Multimedia and Internet Application.

**BA (Honours) in English Literature** (Calcutta University, India)

1996-1999

Optional course modules included Economics and Politics.