Dear Kerry Lindsay,

I am writing to express my interest in applying for the Graduate Test Engineer position at Exterity. As a student at CodeClan, the opportunity came to my attention as Exterity appears as an employer partner with CodeClan. I am an enthusiastic individual with a passion for learning new things and taking on new and exciting challenges. As such, the prospect of working as a member of Exterity's test team is highly appealing to me. After researching the company and role, it is my view that my skills and attributes learned both on and off of the CodeClan course would make me an ideal match for this position. Further, I find Exterity's commitment to providing a high standard IPTV product for its customers, and I would be proud to be a part of delivering a quality software product such as this.

During my time at CodeClan I have learned a number of languages, including Java, Ruby and JavaScript. I have thoroughly enjoyed immersing myself in these languages, and I would relish the opportunity to continue to broaden my knowledge base of these languages, as well as learning entirely new languages. Working in an environment that is fast paced, challenging, and full of opportunities to learn is important to me, and my enthusiasm to take these challenges head on is one of the foremost reasons that I believe I would be an ideal fit for this role.

Throughout my time at CodeClan, I have worked hard to cultivate the skills necessary to be a part of a development team that produces excellent quality software. Along with object oriented programming in Ruby, Java and JavaScript, the course also teaches proficiency in a wide range of supporting technologies. This includes databases programmes such as MongoDB, PostgreSQL and SQLite, as well as various frameworks, such as React, Rails and Sinatra. It is important to note that the instructors have placed a great deal of emphasis on the importance of Test Driven Development. As such, I have become accustomed to utilising this approach in each of the languages I have used, making use of MiniTest and Mocha. The benefits of this methodology are clear to me, and I would love to be a part of a company that utilises this to ensure the code that they produce is of a high standard. Additionally, the instructors emphasise the importance of writing code in a manner that not only works, but is efficient and easy for others to read. In this regard, I have become familiar with practices such as writing code that is DRY and RESTful, and make use of design patterns where appropriate. The course involves four week long projects that are comprised of a mix of solo and group work. Undertaking these projects has taught me the importance of carefully planning substantial pieces of work, as well as providing an opportunity to undertake my own research without the comfort of being spoon-fed information by the instructors. Through this, I have found myself to prefer working in a group, utilising paired programming and an agile approach in order to boost overall productivity and efficiency at the task in hand. I have provided links to my GitHub on my CV, demonstrating some examples from my portfolio.

My work experience in retail and customer technical support positions with companies such as Sky, Marks & Spencer and ASDA has helped me to refine my interpersonal communication abilities when interacting with colleagues and customers, and these positions often required me to rapidly adapt to challenging new environments. My work experience has often required me to work as a team player, which is an aspect of the work environment that I truly relish. Furthermore, I come from a strong academic background, and have recently completed my Masters in English Literary Studies at the University of Aberdeen. During my time at university, I became a proficient self-learner while undertaking the extensive research that was necessary in order to complete a multitude of essays, presentations and dissertations. This has offered me plenty of opportunity to practise motivating myself to learn a vast amount of new information in a relatively short space of time, a skill that has been invaluable while undertaking the course at CodeClan. Additionally, my experience of debating complex subjects with my peers during

tutorials has helped dramatically with boosting my interpersonal communication skills, and I have also cultivated excellent organisational and time keeping skills in order to keep up with the demanding volume of work. Overall, my academic and work experience has served to shape me into an individual that would be ideal for the fast paced team oriented environment at Exterity.

In regards to my availability, I would be able to begin immediately. I am currently located in Dunfermline, and would have no issue commuting to Dalgety Bay. Please find my CV attached for a further breakdown of my skills and experience.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my application, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Warmest wishes,
James Scott