**Please tell us about your experiences to date – what transferable skills from these experiences and roles would make you a great devops engineer?**

* **Devops have to work across teams (teamwork, collaboration, communication)**

I learnt to code in C and became proficient in memory management within a few weeks of enrolling on CS50, a Harvard X course. I noticed how rapidly I picked up new skills and I decided to prioritise learning, even after completing the course, by dedicating fifteen hours a week to learning and writing code. Making development part of my weekly routine will help me to continually grow as a Devops engineer at Arm.

Teamwork, which is essential to the role of devops engineers, is a skill I have practiced both in my former life as a professional cricketer, and in coding. [line about cricket teamwork experience]. I learnt to apply these skills in a totally new context when I joined an intensive bootcamp at Makers Academy where communicating effectively with others is crucial. I have honed my communication skills by regularly taking on pair programming challenges with peers from a wide variety of backgrounds and careers. Collaborating with others has accelerated my own learning as I have been exposed to different approaches to problems. It has also given me the chance to help others by sharing my own ideas and knowledge. Being a team player will enable me to thrive at Arm and to reach unexpected solutions more quickly.

To aid my growth, I took on a voluntary project with Contrast, a small printing business, to design an app for invoicing and inventory control. I identified and responded to the client’s needs within agreed timeframes, for example, ensuring the app would meet accessibility requirements. I continue to collaborate with the client to identify and troubleshoot issues on the system. I also ensure that any required updates are implemented securely with backups stored of previous versions of working code. Managing this project from start to finish allowed me to familiarise myself with the software development lifecycle from requirement analysis through to testing and deployment.

Another interesting project is a web app used to trade stocks with user authentication built on the Flask framework utilising an SQLite database on the backend. I applied a process of iterative improvement through cycles of testing and developing with version control and monitored the final product to ensure it met user needs.

I have sought to educate myself on Agile methodology by reaching out to my network to gain insight into life as a developer. I am collaborating with my partner, who has experience as scrum master, to utilise an Agile framework with daily “stand-ups” and two-week sprints to accelerate our conservatory renovation project. I also look forward to utilising the framework for the upcoming team project at Makers Academy. Furthermore my sports background means that I am experienced in contributing individually while collaborating with teammates to achieve a common goal.

Having managed my own development in coding and programming, I am confident in undertaking projects with little guidance and am accustomed to learning on the job and at pace. I also appreciate the importance of having structures in place to keep projects on schedule and welcome the opportunity to work collaboratively, learning from others while also helping my peers. It is these qualities, as well as my fun-loving nature and my passion for coding, that will help me to excel as a DevOps Engineer at Arm.