

# Lewis Blackburn

York, UK

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## Personal Profile

As an ambitious and dedicated student pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science at York St. John University, I consider myself to be a hard-working individual who is a valuable asset to the workplace environment. At the moment, I am currently seeking opportunities to gain practical experience and to build upon my existing skills alongside my degree. In pursuit of career growth and personal development, I am always looking for new opportunities and so have actively sought out and participated in a variety of work-placement sessions throughout my time in education. This includes external courses that align with my degree. I completed a comprehensive course on the "MERN" stack, delving into the intricacies of React, Node.js, Express, and MongoDB. Using this as a foundation, I have explored more advanced concepts, including GraphQL, TypeScript, PostgreSQL and Redis. Here, I gained knowledge on subjects such as rate limiting, web authentication, databases, and caching, specifically focusing on full-stack development, through the practical experience of creating a Twitter clone. I see my attitude as eager to learn in order to develop my personal skills for future career prospects.

## Education

### York St. John University

York, UK

BSc (Hons) in Computer Science

Sept 2022 - Current

- Expected Graduation: 2025
- Expected Classification: First Class Honours
- **Courses:** Programming 01, Maths and Problem Solving, Security Systems and Products, Web Development, Operating Systems, Software Engineering, Systems Programming and Scripting, Database Systems, Computer Networks, Advanced Programming, Professional and Research Practices, Artificial Intelligence

### Wakefield College

Margaret St, Wakefield

A-Levels

September 2020 - July 2022

- Computer Science (AQA) - A
- Psychology (AQA) - C
- Mathematics (Edexcel) - D

### Outwood Academy Hemsworth

Wakefield Road, Hemsworth

High School

September 2015 - July 2020

- Computer Science (OCR) - 9
- English Language (Eduqas) - 9
- English Literature (Eduqas) - 8
- Biology (AQA) - 6
- Chemistry (AQA) - 6
- Physics (AQA) - 6
- Mathematics (Edexcel) - 6
- Enterprise (Pearson BTEC) - D2
- Creative iMedia (OCR) - D2

## Work Experience

### Drive2Learn

45 Innovation Wy, Barnsley S75 1JG

Freelance Web Developer

August 2024 - Present

- Designed and developed a professional website for a driving instructor
- Collaborated with the client to deliver a tailored solution and understand their requirements
- Responsible for maintaining both the front-end and back-end of the website
- Implemented features such as file uploads, contact forms, and a booking system
- Ensured the website was responsive and accessible across all devices
- Optimised the website for search engines and improved its performance

### Sainsbury's Local

212-214 Fulford Road, YO10 4DX

Retail Assistant

October 2022 - May 2023

- Strong time management skills by balancing work and study
- Prioritised tasks effectively in the high-pressure environment of a busy shop
- Improved communication skills through regular customer interaction
- Fulfilling online orders which requires attention to detail and ability to work quickly.
- Demonstrated ability to take pride in my work and ensure high standards through stocking shelves, facing up, and maintaining both cleanliness of the shop and it's equipment e.g. the floor and Costa machine.

## McDonald's

Crew Member

Snowhill Retail Park, WF1 2UZ

November 2021 - April 2022

- Organising micro-transactions in a fast-paced environment
- Ability to adapt to various roles within a dynamic environment
- Collaborating with colleagues in order to process orders efficiently
- Quick learner, able to pick up new tasks on short notice
- Demonstrated ability to work under pressure and maintain a positive attitude
- Often received positive feedback from customers for my friendly and helpful approach

## University Projects

### Exploring Approaches in Recommendation Systems

York, UK

York St. John University

Feb 2024 - May 2024

- Analysing data from the MovieLens 100K dataset to explore and evaluate the performance of different recommendation systems.
- Implemented content-based, collaborative and hybrid filtering both from scratch and using the Scikit-Learn library.
- Used different algorithms such as K-Nearest Neighbours, TF-IDF, Cosine Similarity and Pearson Correlation.
- Evaluated the different methods using RMSE and MAE metrics.
- Reported finding and results in a detailed report in Jupyter Notebook through comparative analysis to identify the strengths and weaknesses of each approach.

**Technical Skills:** LaTeX, Python, Scikit-Learn, Artificial Intelligence, Jupyter, Data Science, Exploratory Data Analysis, Hyperparameter Tuning

**Soft Skills:** Time Management, Teamwork, Presentation skills, Report writing.

### Petal

York, UK

York St. John University

Feb 2024 - May 2024

- A comprehensive database that brings together information about films, TV shows, books, people, and songs, all in one convenient platform. Just like popular services like TMDb or IMDb, Petal provides a place for users to navigate, create and update their favourite media.
- Experimented with cron jobs and recommendation systems to provide a personalised user experience.
- Explored object-oriented design patterns and principles to create a maintainable and scalable codebase.
- Implemented external API's that integrate with the internal database for importing and exporting data.

**Technical Skills:** TypeScript, CI/CD, Unit Testing, React.js, Prisma ORM, Rate Limit, Two-factor Authentication, HoneyPot, CSRF, Amazon S3, Scalability

### Tweetah

Wakefield, UK

Wakefield College

Jan 2021 - July 2021

- Designed and developed fully-functioning twitter clone.
- I gained knowledge on subjects such as rate limiting, web authentication, databases, and caching, specifically focusing on full-stack development.
- Implemented features such as user authentication, user profiles, tweets, likes, retweets, comments, and follows.

**Technical Skills:** Redis, PostgreSQL, TypeScript, GraphQL, React.js, Apollo GraphQL, PrismaORM, Node.js, Next.js, TypeGraphQL

## Skills

**Programming** TypeScript, C, Python, Rust, Java, PHP, HTML, CSS, SQL, Assembly

**Technical** Linux, Git, Vim, LaTeX, Eclipse, Visual Studio

**Miscellaneous** Touch Typing (140 WPM)

## Achievements

2024 **Microsoft Azure 900 Fundamentals Certification**, Microsoft

York

2023 **Driving License**, DVSA

Wakefield

## Interests

**Rowing** Core member of University boat club, Social Secretary on the committee and have diverse coxswain and water experience.

**Technical Writing** I write descriptive blogs about programming on my personal website.