

To Whom It May Concern,

I have had the pleasure to mentor Agnès Garoux over the past year. She came to me having learned the basics of Javascript, already pretty competent from online tutorials and codewars katas, but wanting to know how to actually build applications.

We focussed on learning professional skills by building small web services: using Express to teach web-frameworks, React to teach front-end design, and MongoDB to teach databases - always discussing how our solutions compared to alternatives and also the technology underpinning such high-level abstractions. She has learned Docker and even done some CI/CD deployment with Jenkins and Kubernetes.

Agnès has really taken to functional programming - and I have taken care to ground her learning in good code design principles such as SOLID, DRY, TDD & microservices. I have enforced this by asking her to build whole full-stack applications in her own way - and then refactoring it until it becomes clean and concise - always taking the time to discuss the reasons for doing so.

There is no doubt that Agnès did struggle with the fear of learning so many new concepts in such a short period of time - but looking back, she has handled it with aplomb. Her greatest strength lies in her ability to articulate her understanding to others (skills from her time as a teacher); it makes her a strong proposition for any team - especially as helping peers is an integral part of being a software developer.

Because of her dedication and her exposure to professional practices, techniques, & technologies, she should be considered against juniors with up to a year of commercial experience. I know from my own experience that she has already surpassed the average bootcamp graduate.

I would be happy to discuss her abilities further - just call.

Regards,

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I am currently the Development Lead at Tempo.

Previously a Senior Engineer at Sky (where I also taught at their Agile University).

I have also worked at Tes, HSBC & Makers Academy.