**M2 – tools and techniques to create a website**

**Tools**- Code editor  
a code editor is a piece of software that assists a programmer in writing code, such as HTML or CSS.  
There are lots of different Integrated Development Environments (IDE’s) available, each suited to programming languages, OSes, and user preference.  
The editor I used to build the website for this assignment is Sublime Text, a free editor available across Windows, MacOS and Linux systems. It supports having multiple files open at once, tabs, columns and rows, multiple windows, syntax highlighting for dozens of languages, tab-completion and project management.  
Other popular editors include Visual Studio, Microsoft’s IDE, which has many features to assist developers with debugging and code analysis.  
There is also Atom, an IDE based on the chrome browser that has many plugins to extend its feature set.  
While a fully-featured IDE makes programming easier, it is possible to write code in any editor that supports the .txt format. This includes things like Notepad or Nano, which are minimalist text editors on Windows and Linux.

- Browser  
A browser is required to view web pages and ensure they look correct, and any interactive elements (links, scripts, etc) work as intended.  
Browsers also feature a JavaScript console, which is useful for viewing and debugging scripts.

**Techniques**  
There are multiple ways to create a website. The oldest way that offers the most control is to write all the code by hand – HTML, JavaScript, CSS and any server-side scripts (using PHP or Nginx). This offers absolute control over the webpage, down to the last pixel.  
However, this is also the most difficult and time-consuming method. It takes a long time and lots of testing to code a webpage, and an extensive knowledge of design and colour theory to create a website that looks good.  
For this reason, there are various tools to help create websites. An example of this is Dreamweaver, a software package by Adobe that allows users to create websites in a similar manner to creating a document in Publisher. Users can drag and drop elements, and don’t need to write any HTML or CSS – the software generates it all.  
More advanced options include online website designers such as Wix or WordPress. These allow users to choose a theme, and then they simply enter the content for the webpage. The service takes care of code (including scripting), hosting, and many other features. This allows users with little knowledge of web design to create professional-looking websites quickly.  
There is often a fee is users wish to host the site themselves, or use a custom domain. Other features may also be available for a price, such as plugins and better responsiveness.