Azure ARM templates

Pros:

- Easy to export a working template from a deployed resource in the Azure Portal
- Fantastic (free) learning resources and QuickStart templates
- Azure native so it supports all Azure services from day 0

Cons:

- Learning curve around JSON
- Templates can get long and unruly
- Doesn't manage state, changes can be breaking

Azure ARM templates - sample

```
"$schema": "https://schema.management.azure.com/schemas/2019-04-01/deploymentTemplate.json#",
"contentVersion": "1.0.0.0",
"metadata": {
 " generator": {
    "name": "bicep",
    "version": "0.6.18.56646",
    "templateHash": "4523590120167697900"
"parameters": {
 "storageAccountType": {
    "type": "string",
    "defaultValue": "Standard_LRS",
    "allowedValues": [
     "Premium LRS",
     "Premium_ZRS",
      "Standard GRS",
      "Standard_GZRS",
      "Standard LRS",
      "Standard_RAGRS",
      "Standard_RAGZRS",
      "Standard ZRS"
    "metadata": {
      "description": "Storage Account type"
 "location": {
    "type": "string",
    "defaultValue": "[resourceGroup().location]",
     "description": "Location for the storage account."
 "storageAccountName": {
    "type": "string",
    "defaultValue": "[format('store{0}', uniqueString(resourceGroup().id))]",
     "description": "The name of the Storage Account"
```

```
"resources": [
    "type": "Microsoft.Storage/storageAccounts",
    "apiVersion": "2021-06-01",
    "name": "[parameters('storageAccountName')]",
    "location": "[parameters('location')]",
    "sku": {
      "name": "[parameters('storageAccountType')]"
    "kind": "StorageV2",
    "properties": {}
"outputs": {
 "storageAccountName": {
    "type": "string",
    "value": "[parameters('storageAccountName')]"
  },
  "storageAccountId": {
    "type": "string",
    "value": "[resourceId('Microsoft.Storage/storageAccounts', parameters('storageAccountName'))]"
```

az deployment group create -g my-rg --template-file deploy.json