

BTEC Level 4

HNC Diploma in Computing and Systems Development

BTEC Level 3

Extended Diploma in IT

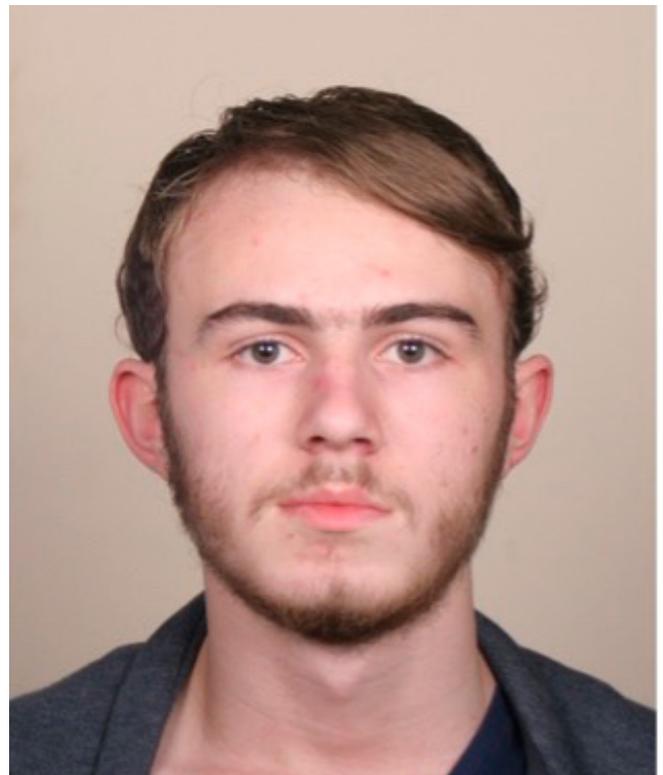
Matt McCallion

Why did you choose to study a BTEC?

At the time I completed secondary school, there was no ICT A-Level course in Northern Ireland. So BTEC was the only available option for my desired career path. I've wanted to be a game developer since I was a child and I did a games development course at university, and both that and my BTEC became applicable to my current job, much to my surprise and delight.

What was your favourite thing about the BTEC?

Definitely the programming module. It felt very weird to create a form-based application by writing a "story" in code but I enjoyed it very much. The hardware module was also fascinating but very challenging! I'm not comfortable with the hardware aspect of computing because it can't be fixed as easily as software if something goes wrong.



Matt McCallion

Consultant at Deloitte Digital UK

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What are you doing now?

I am a consultant for Deloitte Digital UK, which is the software arm of the company. I work with client software development teams on their applications and sometimes internally with Deloitte on theirs which are then proposed to outside clients such as banking firms or government entities. I love working on different and unique projects in the private, public, and banking sectors.

My BTEC helped me get a start with programming as I had not previously done any beforehand. I previously saw programming as a tedious task, and preferred drag and drop code builders. Now I can't see myself going back, even preferring to write code over using "tedious" menus and interfaces if possible in my work.

Would you recommend BTEC?

If A-Levels / returning to school sounds like a daunting task, then definitely. It's a fresh change from the previous 5+ years of secondary education. Do remember however that tutors can't give you all the answers but they will guide you in the right direction if you ask. I would not have got through my SQL / database module without constant questions about how the system works.