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APPRENTICESHIP

Software Developer

Level 3

3

1 Apprenticeship Framework

The Level 3 Software Developer Apprenticeship has been designed with employers in Wales to develop employees primary software development skills. To be able to engage with stakeholders, specify and design software solutions, develop and improve software, test and document software and support users. This apprenticeship programme is designed to provide a robust vocational route to develop the skills and knowledge required to kickstart their career as a software developer.

The programme prepares learners for roles such as:

- Junior Web Developer
- Junior Software Developer
- Junior App Developer

Who is this apprenticeship for?

This programme is for candidates who work in software development and have a basic level of experience and/or knowledge of the sector or those progressing from a relevant prior qualification. E.g. IT related GCSE or a Level 2 apprenticeship in a related IT discipline.

On completion of this apprenticeship, you will achieve the following:

- Agored Cymru Level 3 Diploma in Software Developer
- Essential Skills Wales Level 2 in Communication
- Essential Skills Wales Level 2 in Application of Number

Benefits of the apprenticeship programme:

Accelerate Your Career Growth: With the Level 3 Software Developer Apprenticeship, you will fast-track your career by gaining invaluable hands-on experience alongside theoretical knowledge. You will be equipped with the tools to launch a career as a front-end or back-end developer and make a difference in your organisation.

Industry-Recognised Certification: Upon successful completion of this programme, you will earn a prestigious industry-recognised certification, providing you with a competitive edge in the job market. Employers value the skills and expertise gained through this apprenticeship, opening doors to exciting opportunities.

Practical and Real-World Learning: Our programme emphasises practical, real-world learning. You will practice skills in a classroom environment and be able to apply within your workplace, collaborating with experienced colleagues who will guide you through every step of the process.

Tailored Curriculum: Our comprehensive curriculum is designed to meet the demands of the software development sector. You'll cover essential topics such as system security by design, software design, software development coding, software testing and documentation, continual development, and professionalism.

Experienced and Knowledgeable Advisors: Throughout your apprenticeship, you'll have access to a network of experienced advisors who will provide guidance, support, and feedback. Learn from industry experts with a wealth of knowledge and experience across the digital sector.

Course Delivery

- Typical duration of 21 months.
- Induction session for apprentices and for their line managers.
- One to One tutor coaching and assessment support sessions.
- Supported by self-study online resources.
- 4 Essential skills assessment days. (2 Preparation days and 2 Live Task days) **
- 2 hour long essential skills confirmatory tests. **

**Essential Skills activities are not applicable to apprentices with exemptions.

2 Level 3 Diploma in Software Developer

Course Delivery

This programme will primarily be delivered through 1-to-1 sessions with a member of the ALS delivery team, using a mixture of face-to-face and remote learning sessions. An ALS assessor will meet with the learner, either in the workplace or through digital means once a month for approximately two hours to support progress.

For employers who have a number of apprentices completing the Level 3 in Software Developer apprenticeship, group workshops may be substituted for some 1-to–1 sessions.

Learners will also be set tasks to complete between each visit which are tailored to the different needs of each learner and the workplace activities they are involved with.

Qualification Structure Summary

The Agored Cymru Level 3 Diploma in Software Developer consists of 7 mandatory units, with a total of 67 credits plus a minimum of 12 optional credits.

Please note: at least 56 credits must be at Level 3

Unit rules of combination

- Mandatory Units (Learners must achieve all 7 units) – 67 credits.
- Optional units Group B – minimum 12 credits.
- The same unit may not be selected at more than one level (e.g. Carrying out Information Security Audits Level 3 and Carrying out Information Security Audits Level 4)

What you will learn

This programme is made up of a mixture of mandatory units (these have to be completed by all learners as part of the qualification) and optional units (we will work with you to decide what units are relevant to your role, and your business).
Below is a brief overview of the units available.

Mandatory Units	
Unit Title	**Level**
Health and Safety in an IT Context	3
Principles of Secure System Development	3
Software Design	3
Professional Practice in an IT Context	3
Improving Existing Software	3
Software Testing	3
Computer Coding	3

Optional units Group B (minimum 12 credits required)		
Unit Title	**Level**	**Credits**
Investigating and Defining Customer Requirements for ICT Systems.	4	15
Testing the Security of Information Systems.	4	15
Database Software.	3	6
Create Data-Driven Applications.	4	15
IT & Telecom System Security 2.	3	8
Manage an IT Application Project.	3	8
Database Applications.	3	8
Testing the Security of Information Systems.	3	12
IT System Operation.	3	12
Remote Support for IT Products and Services.	3	9
IT System Management.	3	12
Investigating and Defining Customer Requirements for IT Systems.	3	12
IT Fault Diagnosis.	3	10
Remote Support for IT Products and Services.	4	12
Integrated Development and Operations (DevOps).	3	11
User Centred Development (UX).	4	12
User Centred Development (UX).	3	7
Integrated Development and Operations (DevOps).	4	15

Have any questions about our Level 3 Diploma in Software Developer?

We are here to help. If you have any further questions or enquiries about the main qualification element of the programme, please contact at **info@alstraining.org.uk**

3 Essential Skills Qualifications

When you agree to undertake an apprenticeship, you may be required to complete Essential Skills as part of your Apprenticeship framework.

Essential Skills Wales

The Essential Skills Wales (ESW) will be initially assessed via an online Wales Essential Skills Toolkit (WEST) Assessment. Where a Learner already holds an ESW certificate or equivalent qualification this can provide an exemption and learners will not need to complete that ESW element of the programme. Where a Learner is not exempt an Individual Learning Plan (ILP) will be generated from the initial assessment. The modules delivery will include independent learning via WEST, prior to guided learning sessions preparing the Learner for their assessment. ESWs are assessed via controlled tasks and confirmatory tests for Communication and Number, Digital Literacy is assessed via a controlled task and structured discussion.

Exemptions

If you already hold qualifications, these may be used as 'exemptions' towards your apprenticeship framework. As a result, you will be exempt from achieving that particular Essential Skill, if you wish. This will be discussed with you before you sign up with us, and will also be followed up by your assessor before and during your first visit from us.

Have any questions about Essential Skills?

We are here to help. If you have any further questions or enquiries about Essential Skills element of the programme, please contact **info@alstraining.org.uk**