

James Wallis

Studying BSc (Hons) Computer Science

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Personal Profile

A highly motivated, professional Computer Science student at the University of Portsmouth starting work as a software developer at IBM in September 2019. Strengths include the ability to make rational judgements, solve problems logically with a planned approach and work alone or as part of a team.

Education

The University of Portsmouth, BSc (Hons) in Computer Science.

(2015 – 2019)

Predicted Grade: 1ST.

The degree is focussed on studying the topics of Programming and maths, Computer Architecture, Database Design and Development, Web Foundations and Network Fundamentals. The course combines practical projects and theoretical study with group and solo work. This, combined with my placement year at IBM, has helped me develop technical and transferable skills in:

- **Web Development Languages:** HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript, Node.js and PHP.
- **Programming Languages:** Python, Java, Haskell and Bash.
- **Containerisation Systems:** Docker and Kubernetes
- **Time Management:** Constantly re-evaluating time spent on certain projects to ensure that I can get the highest grade in all subjects. I have utilised this skill in every subject so far and at IBM where I worked in two-week agile iterations and had to ensure that any work I was assigned to was finished in a single iteration.
- **Team Work:** Able to inspire and motivate team members and help them learn how to complete any task to a high professional standard. At IBM I was part of an agile nine-person team. Took part in daily scrums to give status on work items. Willing to ask questions to the team and provide help when asked upon.
- **Report Writing:** Strong analytical skills enabling me to take various sources of information and communicate what I have found in a structured and coherent way. Wrote a Literature Review in my first year on the topic of Sustainable Computing which I received a first grading for.

Ashlyns School

(2010-2015)

A-Level: ICT: A, Extended Project Qualification: B, Government and Politics: C, History: D.

GCSE: 10 GCSE's A-C including Maths: A, ICT: Merit, English Language and Literature: B & C.

Experience

University of Portsmouth

Placement Ambassador (September 2018 - Present)

Currently, hold the position of Placement Ambassador at the Student Placement and Employability Centre (SPEC) on a part-time basis.

- Perform a variety of roles including providing students with placement advice, sharing my own experience and supporting placement events such as the CV checking day hosted by SPEC.
- Held a presentation focussed on creating an online portfolio/website. Promoted having an online presence to stand out when applying for a job and the online portfolio as a means to demonstrate other completed projects which a CV can't do justice.

IBM

University Placement year (July 2017 – July 2018)

Spent my placement year working at IBM Hursley as a software developer. Worked heavily on Microclimate, an application specialising in development for containerised environments. Also developed features for the appmetrics products which focus on application performance monitoring.

- Worked on a major IBM product, Microclimate, from its prototype to its general announcement.
- Obtained expertise in Node.js, bash, Docker, Kubernetes and Git while developing a containerised application.
- Took part in many status calls with IBM executives and Microclimate stakeholders providing my own ideas and opinions while discussing what features should be implemented.
- Contributed to an open source projects such as appmetrics-dash, javametrics and generator-nodeserver.

ArtistJodi.com

Developer and Maintainer (August 2017 - Present)

Developed a bespoke website for a client. Jodi, an artist, had a design in mind and wanted a developer to create her site the exact way she envisioned it.

- Followed Jodi's design to create the website, giving feedback on sections which wouldn't work well in a responsive format or on the web. Helped to re-design pages when necessary.
- Wrote the site using the React framework Next.js to take advantage of the server-side rendering to give ArtistJodi.co.uk the best SEO set up possible.
- Compressed and optimized images to ensure the website has a fast load time.
- Hosted in a Docker container and uses GitHub's Travis integration to build and push the Docker image when I commit to master branch.

Wallis Consultancy (wallisconsultancy.co.uk)

Developer and Maintainer (July 2016 - Present)

Started as a summer project which consisted of overhauling my Dad's business website. I now look after it and make changes when he requests them.

- Replaced an outdated layout with a responsive, user-friendly one.
- Gained further knowledge on HTML5 & CSS3 as well as introducing myself to PHP and JavaScript.
- Released and maintain a professional website.

Potten End First School

IT Support (September 2016 – September 2017)

Work Experience at Potten End First School which led to a paid position on return from University at Christmas.

- Overhauled an outdated computer system to install a new operating system and necessary programs.
- Explained changes made to the computers to teachers in layman's terms.

Martin's Pond

Waiter (October 2012 – August 2016)

Martin's Pond is a small village pub that is very popular for its fabulous food. I worked in a busy and challenging environment as a waiter at all times. This job included running food and drinks and ensuring that all the guests were happy.

- Gained confidence and experience with clients as customer satisfaction was a top priority.
- Strengthened my ability to negotiate with guests and compose myself during difficult situations while having conversations with customers to solve the conflict.
- Sold raffle tickets for charity events that the restaurant supported.

Kumon

Instructor/Tutor (September 2010 – September 2015)

Once a week after school, I worked with the local Kumon club. Kumon is a tutoring company centered on developing a student's individual instruction using carefully crafted worksheets.

- Taught primary and secondary school students Maths and English.
- Able to convey a complex problem in a simple manner leading to the student being able to solve it themselves.
- Developed time management skills in order to distribute and mark work at the same time as providing assisting students with their work. All this had to be done in a two-hour period.

Additional Experience

- Work at *Salsa Mish* (salsamish.co.uk) on an ad-hoc basis. Working at Salsa has led me to become extremely versatile as the role that I work depends on who cannot make a certain night and as it is a fast-paced work environment I could switch roles at any time.
- Worked as a cycle courier for *Deliveroo* during my second year (2016-2017) of University. The role focussed on delivering food to customers in expeditious time and providing a high level of customer service both in restaurants and at a customer's door.
- Completed a week's work experience at *O2* in Slough in 2012. During my time at O2, I created a presentation for their "Think Big" scheme, spoke to stakeholders in the scheme and learnt about O2's system architecture.

Activities / Interests

- Developing and maintaining wallis.dev, my personal website and portfolio. It contains a list of projects that I have developed for myself and clients, my CV and links to my LinkedIn and GitHub account. I've been working on the website since 2016 and have recently upgraded it as part of a personal challenge to bring together skills learnt at University and on placement such as research and designing the site and building the site up from scratch, using the React.js framework Next.js.
- I have been sailing from a young age, and still love being out on the water. It was one of the main reasons I decided to study at Portsmouth University. Sailing has taught me good teamwork as performing a manoeuvre without communication could potentially capsize the boat.