



WESTON
COLLEGE



CEH
CAREER EXCELLENCE HUB

DIGITAL

WELCOME

The Digital industry is growing at a quick pace, with lots of exciting opportunities to work with the latest technology available in the area.

We have decided to launch brand new Career Excellence Hubs, which gives a greater focus on preparing our learners for industry and we would be delighted to welcome you along to our new Digital Career Excellence Hub.

Whether it's liaising with businesses in the industry to make sure we're teaching you relevant and up-to-date skills, creating the best facilities and digital platforms in the region for you to study in, or selecting the top teachers with current industry experience - our Digital Career Excellence Hub is focused on providing you with the right learning environment to help you reach your potential.

We are about preparing you for a career - what we offer is far more than just a course. Weston College is a diverse and inclusive learning environment, and we reward our students when they go above and beyond their abilities and expectations.

This guide will introduce you to our Digital Career Excellence Hub.

I look forward to welcoming you soon.

Dr Paul Phillips CBE, PhD, DLit, EdD
Principal and Chief Executive

Digital companies contribute **£149 billion** to **UK economy annually**

IT Managers earn **£45,000** annually on average

Digital Tech industry **growing 6x quicker** than any other industry

Over **68,000** people are employed in digital roles across the **South West**

WHAT IS THE CAREER EXCELLENCE HUB?

As a Weston College student you will become part of our exciting new Career Excellence Hub in Digital.

This means you will take part in a study programme with lots of career boosting benefits, all with the aim of giving you the opportunity to become career ready!

Our mission statement is 'creating brighter futures' and we passionately believe in helping you reach your

ultimate goal, focussing on your future employability and developing the skills you need to have a successful career.

So, whether you're a school leaver or looking to study a full-time programme, our Career Excellence Hubs will help you stand out from the crowd and get ahead!



WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

You'll get to study in **state-of-the-art** learning spaces at Knightstone Campus, using the latest **industry standard** equipment, with concepts and ideas delivered by lecturers who have a wealth of industry experience.

We will equip you with 21st Century **employability skills** to progress you onto your next career destination. This will include, working on **'real world learning'** using employer briefs and real-life case studies and scenarios to encourage up to the minute workplace problem solving.

Upskilled with the latest digital tools and technologies as a **Microsoft Showcase College**.

In a rapidly changing world of work, your identity, professional networks, and digital capability will increasingly influence your **future career opportunities**. We'll prepare

you to stand out by showcasing your work and achievements.

If competitions are in your sights, you will also have the option to compete against the best in the UK through our links with **WorldSkills UK**.

You will be supported with outstanding wrap-around pastoral support via our **Wellbeing@Weston** model which provides all learners with access to highly qualified teams of welfare and mental health practitioners and resources all designed to support you **achieve** your **career** goals.

Inspired with personalised **1:1 Careers** Education Information Advice and Guidance, helping you look at all the options available to you for progression to the next step on your career journey.

Regardless of what your **career goal** is or whether you simply need to know what your options are - our team of highly trained careers advisors (Level 6 and above) offer relaxed, impartial advice to get you where you want to be helping you figure out the **best route to achieve your dream career**.

Empowered to learn more about your own **mental health and wellbeing** as part of your journey with us. Our ethos of **Body and Mind** will help you learn to develop coping strategies, build resilience, and access the proven benefits of exercise for wellness.

As well as all of the above benefits of being part of one of our Career Excellence Hubs, Weston College also offers you a fun, social experience designed for you to meet like-minded people, as well as being the only **OUTSTANDING COLLEGE IN THE REGION!**

OUR DIGITAL CAREER EXCELLENCE HUB IS ENDORSED BY:



We will provide you with **unrivalled exposure** to these employers with enhanced work experience, employer visits, simulation, as well as understanding what it means to be truly inclusive in a **modern** workplace, through valuing other people's diversity and ideas based on the principles of Fairness Respect Equality Diversity Inclusion and Engagement.



Proud to be part of the WorldSkills UK Innovation Network



STUDY PROGRAMMES

We have a range of programmes available in our Digital Career Excellence Hub, which will prepare you for a life in the industry.

Whether you want to specialise in cyber, or coding, we have a course for you – just **click on the course**, and it will take you to the course page on our website:



Computing/IT

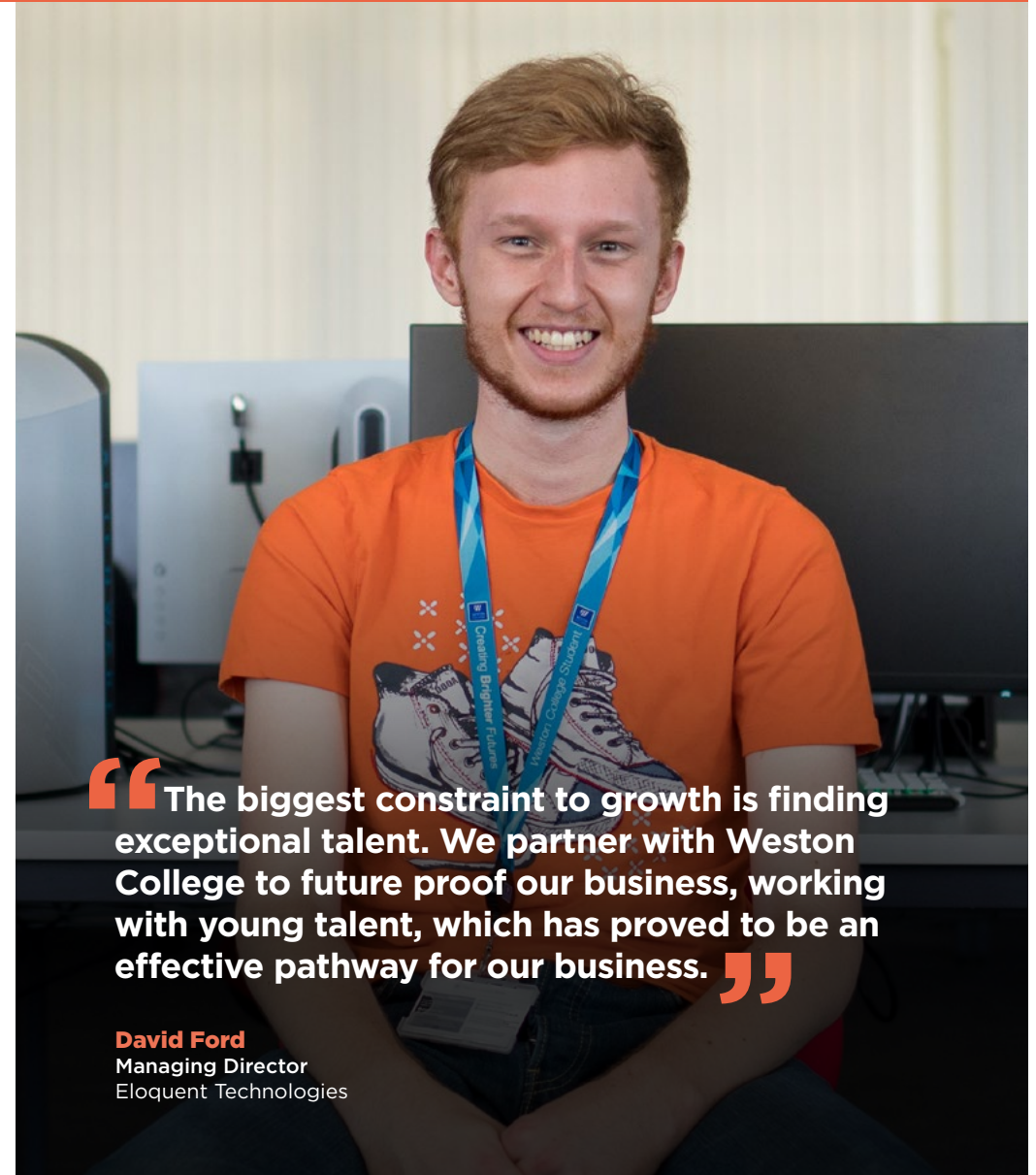
IT Practitioners, BTEC Certificate and Subsidiary Diploma
– Level 3

eSports

Digital Development

Cyber

CLICK
ON A
COURSE



“ The biggest constraint to growth is finding exceptional talent. We partner with Weston College to future proof our business, working with young talent, which has proved to be an effective pathway for our business. ”

David Ford
Managing Director
Eloquent Technologies

INDUSTRY SKILLS

Through our Career Excellence Hubs you will develop skills for life, which will help you gain employment once you have completed your study programme. We will help you to gain both hard skills, and soft skills, which employers have highlighted as keys skills in this sector, but what exactly are they?

Hard skills are the measurable ones that you list on your CV, and that you may hold certification in. Whereas soft skills are interpersonal, and help you to develop your character, which will benefit you in building relationships with co-workers and customers.

Alongside input from our Career Excellence Hub employer partners and advisory boards, we as a college have invested in powerful Labour Market Intelligence tools

to further guarantee that our curriculum meets employer need. Not only do we use all this information to inform our curriculum design, but it is also used to inform our skills and individual development programme called ID that's purpose is to accelerate your progress towards your career goal and next steps by equipping you with the complete package of knowledge, experiences and skills.

We have built them into your study programme, meaning you will learn and develop these skills with us:

Hard Skills

- Vendor Certifications
- Systems Thinking
- E-safety
- Commercial Awareness
- Research

Soft Skills

- Problem Solving
- Communication
- Teamwork
- Organisation
- Innovation

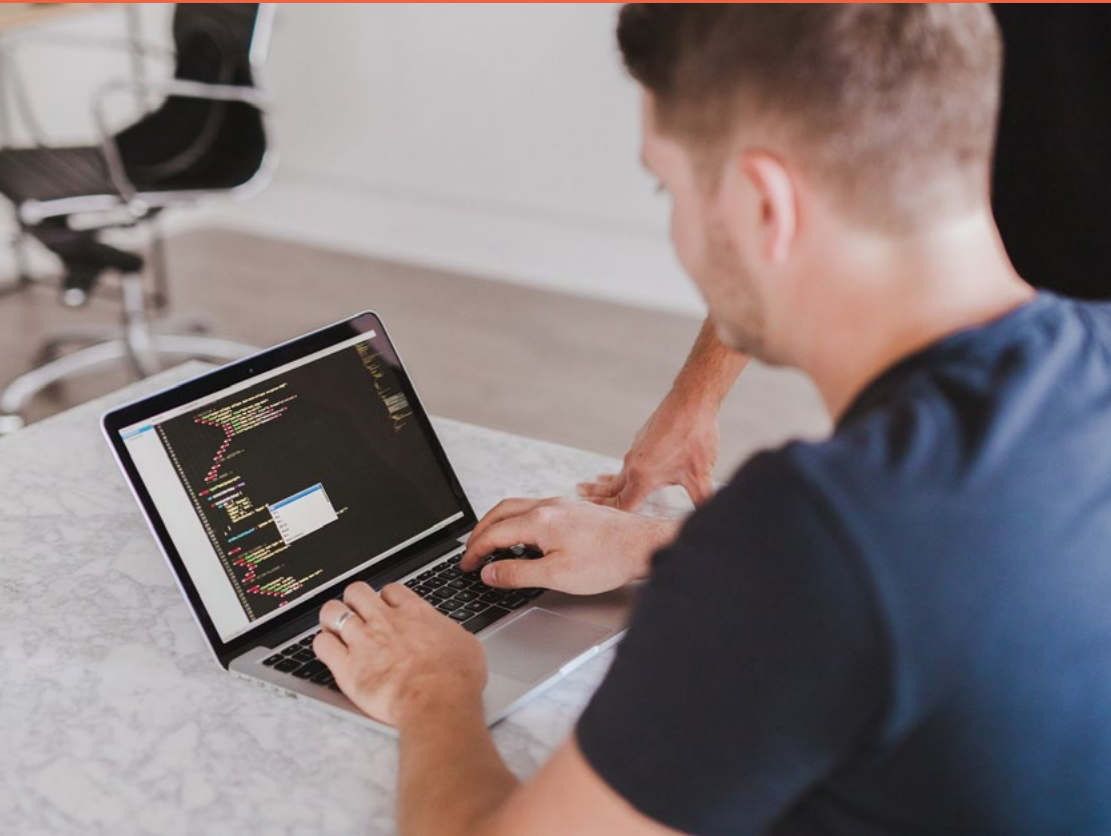
English and maths are also a very important part of Digital, here are some of the key skills they provide:

English

- Speaking, listening and communication skills
- Technical terminology
- Communication with clients
- Technical accuracy of Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPaG) for computer programming
- Writing emails and letters

Maths

- Invoicing clients – providing a breakdown of fees for labour costs, printing costs etc
- Scaling – Using simple ratios to enlarge images
- Using ideas such as the golden ratio to make aesthetically pleasing pages
- Using symmetry, angles, and curves



PROGRESSION ROUTES

Once you've completed your course, there are several options for you to further develop your skills and knowledge...



If you completed a Level 1, or Level 2 course, you can continue to progress to the next level course. Click here to go back to our course page, and discover the relevant course route, for you.



We also offer Digital T Level programmes, which is a mixture of college and work-based learning designed to give you the technical skills and workplace experience to kick-start your digital career.

You will complete a core technical qualification that will develop your understanding of the digital sector plus undertake a 12-week industry placement with one of our partner digital companies.



An apprenticeship is a fantastic way of entering the digital industry. Not only will you get the opportunity to get your foot in the door with a local or national company, you will also be able to earn while you learn.

Through apprenticeships you will work closely with an experienced digital professional to develop and practice your skills, all whilst receiving the benefits that being a student brings.



We have several degree options on offer at UCW, which will allow you to further develop your knowledge. UCW is rated as Gold in the Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes Framework, meaning the teaching, learning and opportunities we provide are of the highest quality in Britain.

There are several degree options available in digital, which could lead you on to a career as an app developer, web developer or a career in cyber. You can find the full UCW course list, here.

CAREER IDEAS

The Digital industry is really exciting but also varied, so you might not know exactly which route you'd like to take yet. Here are a few different career options for you, with one of them potentially becoming your future career...

APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT

App Developers make computers perform specific tasks, based on their client's specifications, by translating software requirements into workable programming code.

Average salary: £37,000

CYBER SECURITY

Cyber security professionals help to protect an organisation by employing a range of technologies and processes to prevent, detect and manage cyber threats.

Average salary: £48,000

DATA ANALYSIS

Data analysts are in high demand across all sectors, due to their skills in understanding data, and being able to provide insight and analysis through clear visual, written and verbal communication.

Average salary: £32,000

HARDWARE ENGINEER

Computer hardware engineers analyse complex equipment to determine the best way to improve it, and design new types of information technology devices.

Average salary: £35,000

IT CONSULTANCY

IT consultants are great communicators and have excellent organisational skills as well as a sound knowledge and understanding of IT systems.

Average salary: £35,000

SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Software engineers create, maintain, audit and improve systems, by applying scientific and mathematical principles in to create computer software and solve problems.

Average salary: £35,000

WEB DEVELOPER

Web developers are in demand as companies try to supersede their competitors' digital presence and e-commerce functionalities.

Average salary: £30,000

CONTACT US

Got a question about our **Career Excellence Hubs** or one of our programmes or just need to get in touch?

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