

# T LEVEL

## Technical Qualification in Digital Production, Design and Development

### ADAM WILCOCK Student Case Study

**Provider**

Provider:  
Notre Dame Catholic  
Sixth Form College



Location: Leeds



Area type: City

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*Gaining industry  
experience is  
exactly what  
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*Adam Wilcock from Leeds is currently studying for a T Level Technical Qualification in Digital Production, Design and Development at Notre Dame Catholic Sixth Form College. A keen footballer and amateur chef, he plans to build a career in Software Engineering. We asked him about his T Level experience.*

#### **Why did you choose to study for a T Level?**

I chose to do a T Level mainly because of the invaluable industry work experience that I would gain. Gaining industry experience is exactly what employers want. Furthermore, I also chose to do a T Level because of the broad range of knowledge that I would gain from a range of topics as well as the exciting programming that I would complete. Finally, I chose to do a T Level because I would still be able to go to university if I wanted to since a T Level counts as three A Levels.

#### **What was the most interesting part of your course?**

The most interesting thing I have learned during my T Level course is the programming side of it. I had never even touched programming before I started this T Level, and it instantly ignited my passion for it. I started off with learning about computational thinking techniques such as pattern recognition and abstraction and then slowly progressed onto writing algorithms in python and then later with C#. I found it exciting as I was progressing further and further through this course. ▶

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#### What was the project work element of your course like?

I think the most engaging and enjoyable project I worked on whilst in college was creating a text-based adventure game based on Dungeons & Dragons. It was really engaging since it was a team-based project meaning that we had to plan and develop the game together which increased our collaboration, communication and teamwork skills. In addition to this, there were so many ideas flowing around all the time that we always had ideas on how to make the game better.

#### What work experience did you gain on the course?

I have completed lots of work experience for my T Level course. I found it thanks to the wonderful careers team at Notre Dame Sixth Form College. They regularly send out emails with great opportunities for work experience. An example of an opportunity that was sent out was for Springpod. Springpod regularly has virtual work experience programmes running and I have completed three of them in total. I completed a Nestlé Employability Skills programme which taught me all about soft skills in a working environment, I completed a Technology programme which taught me all about the different career paths within the technology industry such as Data Science, Computer Science and Web Development. Finally, I completed a Fujitsu WorkX programme which taught me all about the various areas of business ranging from Cyber Security to Quantum Computing.

#### How do you think taking a T Level will help you in your chosen career?

I fully believe that the skills I have learned during my T Level will help me to succeed on my chosen route. This is because I have learned both the hard skills and the soft skills to succeed. Hard skills meaning the knowledge side of things and soft skills meaning the skills that you need to excel in the workplace. Employers want both, but especially the soft skills. Finally, I will be able to practice and demonstrate these skills that I have learned during my T Level placement so that I can really hone and perfect them.

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#### Would you recommend T Levels to other young people?

I would definitely recommend a T Level to other students due to the invaluable work experience that you will gain which is exactly what employers want. I would also recommend a T Level because you can do really whatever you want since it counts as three A Levels. You can apply to university who do accept T Levels as well as Apprenticeships. Or if you really want you can go straight into the workplace due to the hard skills and soft skills that you gain whilst doing a T Level. It is a really fun and engaging course! ■