

# Jac Cowie

## BTEC Level 3 National in Esports



### Why did you choose to study Esports?

I chose to study a BTEC in Esports because I'm an esports fan and interested in the industry. When I found out there was a qualification in esports I didn't think twice about signing up.

### What was your BTEC experience like?

My BTEC experience was amazing. I've learned so much about the industry and gained valuable contacts in all parts of esports.

I worked closely with Burnley Football Club helping to run their Gamezone at every home fixture inside Turf Moor. I was also the Head Admin and Team Manager for the esports team at Burnley College where we competed in the British Esports Student Champs and Student Racing League hosted by Williams Sim Racing. This all helped me acquire valuable skills in event management/planning, team management, and operations.

### What did you like most about studying a BTEC?

The reward was the feeling of how much I was learning and how much I was able to put my newly acquired skills to use. My tutors were amazing, they helped develop and strengthen my skills and helped me focus on those I needed to improve.



The opportunities with the BTEC in Esports are limitless and it is 100% worth it."

### How has the BTEC course contributed to your personal growth?

The BTEC course helped me gain confidence in myself as I was enjoying what I was doing, and I was learning skills in an industry I loved. This course helped me believe in myself and contributed massively to the role I am current doing at Williams Racing. ►

### What top 5 skills did you gain from your BTEC?

-  Communication
-  Team management
-  Operations and event management
-  Planning
-  Problem solving

## How has your confidence changed since completing your BTEC course?

My confidence has changed dramatically since completing my BTEC course. If you asked me five years ago if I would be capable of what I have achieved in the last five years, I wouldn't have believed you.

## How do you think your BTEC in Esports helped get you where you are now?

BTEC in Esports isn't just about playing games, it's about learning the industry and learning skills and gaining experience to help you in future roles. The BTEC in Esports has helped me learn those skills and gain the experience, which has helped me get to the role I'm in now and continues to help me during my current role. I wouldn't be as capable to do what I do now without the BTEC course.

## Can you share success stories or significant achievements during your course or your current role?

During my time at Burnley College whilst studying the Event Management unit, myself and four other students tasked ourselves to organise, plan and run a 24-hour charity stream on Twitch. Our goal was to raise £250 for charity. After three months of planning, and a very long day streaming at the college, we managed to raise £1,250 for charity. Smashing our original goals and exceeding all expectations, including our own. This is one of my proudest achievements and the rewarding feeling for this felt the best.

I was also in the first year of students studying Esports at Burnley College. The esports team was completely run by students and with my role being Team Manager. I'd like to think I helped lay the foundation for future students to develop and grow with the course outside of their coursework. I am still in contact with Burnley College and I am proud to have future students follow in my footsteps and become amazing in whatever they do in the future.

## Progression pathway



BTEC Level 3 National in Esports at Burnley College



Events Technician – STEM at Atlassian Williams Racing

## What aspects of your current role do you enjoy the most?

I enjoy the running of the day-to-day events and also love the one-off events and the bigger events where we travel to London, Goodwood, and sometimes other countries. I enjoy this the most as it keeps me the busiest, and I enjoy the feeling of knowing that we have completed an event to a high standard.

## What advice would you give to someone considering a BTEC?

The opportunities with the BTEC in Esports are limitless and it is 100% worth it. If you're interested in having a career in esports, traditional sport or even business, the BTEC in Esports will teach you skills and help you gain experience for all of this and more. You won't regret it.

## How do you feel the BTEC in Esports has prepared you for your future career?

The BTEC in Esports has prepared me for my future career by showing me I am capable of anything if I put my mind to it. This has helped me when trying to get into the industry after college and also helped me in my current role as an Event Technician at Williams Racing. ■