



# Microsoft Apprenticeship Blueprint

For independent  
training providers

Microsoft  
Apprenticeship  
Network



# Introduction

The Microsoft Apprentice Blueprint is your guide to Microsoft training that maps to the knowledge and skills of a Digital Apprenticeship Standard. The Blueprint will help you develop high quality programmes that employers are looking for to grow their own Microsoft talent and close the digital skills gap.



# Standards

## 01

### Information Communication Technician Level 3

Currently this apprenticeship standard is in preview and is waiting for funding band sign off.

This is a new Standard. It was created as part of the Digital Route Review to replace Infrastructure Technician Level 3. It is the one of the most popular Digital Standards and is a great entry point in the world of digital careers.

Use the Microsoft Apprentice Blueprint to help you create your Level Information Communications Technician Apprenticeship Programme. The mapped training gives you access to understand the valuable training to deliver the skills that employers need.

# 02

## Software Developer Level 4

The Software Developer job role is one of the most in demand job roles currently. You will find this job role in many different sectors from fashion to retail, financial services and media.

Use the Microsoft Apprentice Blueprint to help you create your Level 4 Software Developer Apprenticeship Programme. The mapped training gives you access to understand the valuable training to deliver the skills that employers need.



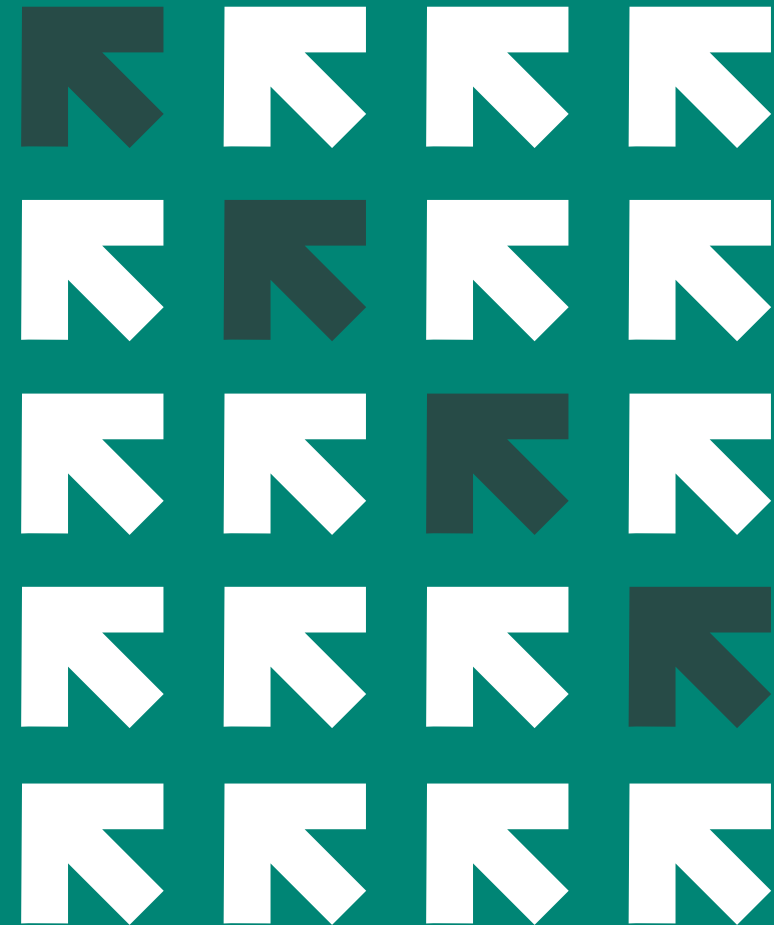
# 03

## Data Technician Level 3

Data is becoming an ever more important part of lives and business. Every sector is seeing a rise in demand in the skills needed to manipulate, visualise and gain insights from their data. As an entry level apprenticeship, the Level 3 Data Technician standard is a great stepping stone to creating a career in data and AI. They will develop vital skills for employers as we move in the new world of work.

The broad purpose of this role is to source, format and present data securely in a relevant way for analysis using basic methods; to communicate outcomes appropriate to the audience and analyse structured and unstructured data to support business outcomes.

Use the Microsoft Apprentice Blueprint to help you create your Level 3 Data Technician Apprenticeship Programme. The mapped training gives you access to understand the valuable training to deliver the skills that employers need.



# 04

## Data Analyst Level 4

Data is becoming an ever more important part of lives and business in every sector are seeing a rising demand in the skills needed to manipulate, visualise and gain insights from the data their business produce. The broad purpose of this occupation is to ascertain how data can be used to answer questions and solve problems. Data analysis is a process of requirement gathering, inspecting, cleansing, transforming and modelling data with the goal of discovering useful information, informing conclusions, and supporting decision making. Data analysis has multiple facets and approaches, encompassing diverse techniques under a variety. This Standard is a great step to create a career in data and AI, which are vital skills for employers as we move in the new world of work.

Use the Microsoft Apprentice Blueprint to help you create your Level 4 Data Analyst Apprenticeship Programme. The mapped training gives you access to understand the valuable training to deliver the skills that employers need.



# 05

## Dev Ops Engineer Level 4

The broad purpose of a Dev Ops Engineer is to enable organisations to get valuable working software in front of active users - both external and internal - frequently and safely, reducing time to market, delivering increased value and improving the quality of digital services. At its simplest, DevOps is a philosophy and way of working that brings together two historically disparate parts of the IT organisation, namely those who develop the software and those who are then required to support it in the live environment. The Dev Ops Engineer encapsulates both disciplines, requiring the individual to understand and appreciate how their code functions when being used in the real world and troubleshoot any issues that may arise, while taking a cloud infrastructure focused perspective.

Use the Microsoft Apprentice Blueprint to help you create your Level 4 Dev Ops Engineer Apprenticeship Programme. The mapped training gives you access to understand the valuable training to deliver the skills that employers need.



[Access the spreadsheet](#)  
Dev Ops Engineer

# 06

## Network Engineer Level 4

A Network Engineer is a technology professional who is highly skilled in maintaining the connectivity of networks in terms of data, voice, calls, videos and wireless network services. The demand for people who can manage, build, maintain virtual and physical networks is increasing. This is because of technological developments such as, 5G and the cloud. The broad purpose of the occupation is to install computer networks, maintain them, and offer technical support to users where necessary.

Use the Microsoft Apprenticeship Blueprint to help you create your Level 4 Network Engineer Apprenticeship Programme. The mapped training gives you access to understand the valuable training to deliver the skills that employers need.



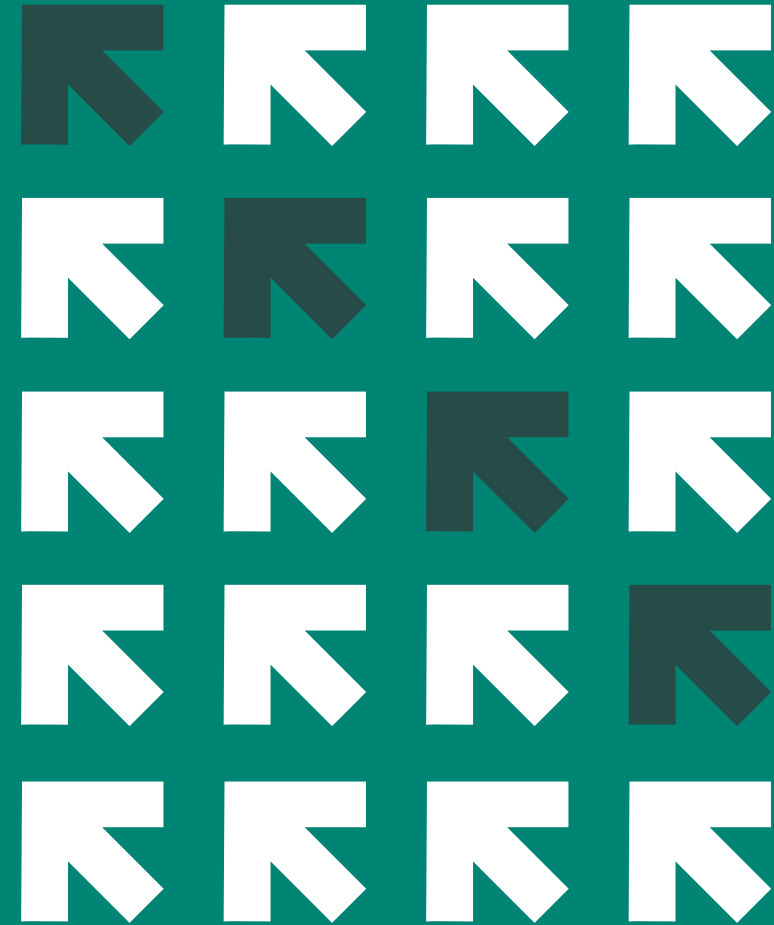


# 07

## Digital and Technical Solutions Professional Level 6

Digital and Technology Solutions Professional provides technology enabled solutions to internal and/or external customers, in a range of areas including software, business and systems analysis, cybersecurity, data analysis and network infrastructure. They implement technology solutions that enable businesses to develop new products and services and increase an organisation's productivity. The occupation is based upon a core set of outcomes that will be supplemented by one - and only one - of six specialism areas detailed below that cover the roles identified by employers.

Use the Microsoft Apprentice Blueprint to help you create a Microsoft learning pathway for many different jobs. The mapped training gives you access to understand the valuable training to deliver the skills that employers need.



 Institute for Apprenticeships & Technical Education  
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Digital and Technical Solutions Professional

# 08

## AI Data Specialist Level 7

This apprenticeship standard is to discover and devise new data driven AI solutions to automate and optimise business processes and to support, augment and enhance human decision making. AI Data Specialists carry out applied research to create innovative data driven AI solutions to business problems within the constraints of a specific business context. They work with datasets that are too large, too complex, too varied or too fast that render traditional approaches and techniques unsuitable or unfeasible.

AI Data Specialists champion AI and its applications within their organisation and promote adoption of novel tools and technologies, informed by current data governance frameworks and ethical best practices.

Use the Microsoft Apprentice Blueprint to help you create a Microsoft learning pathway for many different jobs. The mapped training gives you access to understand the valuable training to deliver the skills that employers need.



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**Access the spreadsheet**  
AI Data Specialist

# 09

## Digital Support Technician Level 3

This occupation is found in organisations, large and small, in all sectors, and within public, private and voluntary organisations. Organisations of all types are increasing applying digital technologies across their business functions to maximise productivity. The demand for people who can support and implement these digital operations and digital transformation projects is increasing. Similarly, organisations of all types are increasingly supporting their service users through online and digital channels, as they develop omni channel approaches to meeting customer needs, deflect traditional telephone and face to face contacts and to reduce costs.



Institute for Apprenticeships & Technical Education

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Digital Support Technician

# 10

## Software Development Technician Level 3

A Software Development Technician typically works as part of a software development team and builds simple software components (whether web, mobile or desktop applications) to be used by other members of the team as part of larger software development projects. They will interpret simple design requirements for discrete components of the project under supervision. The approach will typically include implementing code, which other team members have developed, to produce the required component. The Software Development Technician will also be engaged in testing that the specific component meets its intended functionality.

Use the Microsoft Apprentice Blueprint to help you create a Microsoft learning pathway for employers who are looking to grow Software development/engineering talent. The mapped training gives you access to understand the valuable training to deliver the skills that employers need.



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Software Development Technician

# 11

## IT Solutions Technician Level 3

IT Solutions Technicians develop, implement and maintain complete IT solutions, including their hardware infrastructure (such as servers and networks) and software (such as operating systems, middleware and applications). They work as part of a multi disciplinary team. Many such teams will be modern 'DevOps' style teams, which carry out the full set of stages across the whole solution lifecycle: requirements gathering, solution development, testing, implementation and ongoing support. In more traditional organisations the team is likely to be focused more at one or other end of this broad set of activities. Such teams may well be in transition to a modern 'DevOps' style team.

Use the Microsoft Apprenticeship Blueprint to help you create a Microsoft learning pathway for employers who are looking to grow IT Solutions talent. The mapped training gives you access to understand the valuable training to deliver the skills that employers need.



[Access the spreadsheet](#)  
IT Solutions Technician

# 12

## Cyber Security Technologist Level 4

This occupation is found in all sectors and organisations that employ technology, for example Digital, Telecoms, Technology, Business Services, Defence, Government, Finance, Health, Retail, Critical National Infrastructure, Transport, Automotive sectors and in all types and sizes of organisations including large corporations, public sector bodies, academic institutions, charities, and small and medium enterprises (SME).

The broad purpose of the occupation is to apply an understanding of cybersecurity to protect organisations, systems, information, personal data and people from attacks and unauthorised access.

Use the Microsoft Apprenticeship Blueprint to help you create a Microsoft learning pathway for employers who are looking to grow cybersecurity talent. The mapped training gives you access to understand the valuable training to deliver the skills that employers need.



# 13

## Digital and Technology Solutions Specialist Level 7

A Digital and Technology Solutions Specialist maintains digital and technology strategies through technology leadership; investigating, identifying and implementing technological strategic solutions. They direct digital technology provisioning by studying organisation goals, strategies, practices and delivering and supporting strategic plans for implementing digital technologies. They are confident, competent and capable individuals able to apply leadership and change management skills to operate in a range of digital and technology related specialist roles. This standard is based upon a core set of knowledge, skills and behaviours that will be supplemented by one specialism detailed below.

Use the Microsoft Apprenticeship Blueprint to help you create a Microsoft learning pathway for employers who are looking to grow digital talent. The mapped training gives you access to understand the valuable training to deliver the skills that employers need.

