Institute for Apprenticeships & Technical Education

Higher technical qualification submission form

Awarding body information

Awarding body information

What is the name of the awarding body?
Warwickshire College

Is the awarding body a higher education provider?
Yes

Is the awarding body on the Office for Students register?
Yes

Qualification information

Qualification information

You can only submit one qualification for each form. If you are submitting multiple qualifications you must start a new form for each qualification. Please include the name of the qualification as it appears on Ofqual register or UCAS. Include the size of the qualification. e.g. award, certificate, diploma

What is the name of the qualification?
FdSc Computer Networks and Cybersecurity

Is the qualification on the Ofqual register?
No

If the qualification is not regulated by Ofqual, the organisation owning the qualification must be OfS regulated. This is typically the case of qualifications from Higher Education Providers. For organisations which are Ofqual regulated, the specific qualification must be on the Ofqual register for the application to be progressed. The form will not prevent continuing if this is not completed, but your application cannot be progressed by the approval managers following submission if the awarding organisation is regulated by Ofqual but the qualification is not.

What is the level of the qualification?
Level 5

Route and occupational standards

Route and occupational standards

Awarding bodies must demonstrate that a qualification will enable a person to demonstrate that they have attained as many of the knowledge, skills and behaviours set out in the standard as may be reasonably expected by undertaking a course of education.

Please note:

- Qualifications will only be considered for approval against occupational standards approved by the Institute.

If qualifications have optional units or pathways, we will only approve qualifications where every possible combination of units/ pathways ensures that a learner achieves competence in at least one occupation for which there is a standard. Qualifications with optional units that do not ensure this should be redesigned or remove optional units that do not align to occupations.
Awarding bodies must fill out all sections of this form. They must also submit supporting documentation to provide evidence of the following:

- The content of the qualification (for example, the specification of content)

- Evidence of employer engagement in the development and validation of the qualification (for example this could be within the qualification design and validation documentation that was used through the development of the qualification which evidences where and how employers were involved)

Which route does the qualification fall under?
Digital

Which occupational standards are aligned to the qualification?
Network engineer/Level: 4

Attach documents

Please attach the following documents:

- The content of the qualification (for example, the specification of content)

- Evidence of employer engagement in the development and validation of the qualification (for example this could be within the qualification design and validation documentation that was used through the development of the qualification which evidences where and how employers were involved)

Network engineer

Knowledge, skills and behaviours coverage within the qualification

Please identify which knowledge, skill and behaviour statements from the occupational standard are covered within the qualification.

Where knowledge, skill and behaviour statements are covered, please provide a reference to the qualification content. This should be a unit or module reference along with associated page/paragraph/line numbers (as appropriate) in the attached specification. Please be as specific as possible which content in the qualification aligns to the statement in the standard.

Where knowledge, skill or behaviour statements are partially covered or not covered, you will be asked to provide a rationale for the exclusion of this content from the qualification. The employer engagement evidence provided should support this rationale.

The following questions assess how knowledge, skill and behaviour statements from the occupational standards are covered within the qualification.

This page has automatically generated an item for each knowledge, skill and behaviour statement (KSB) contained within the chosen standard. So please do not remove or add any further KSBs, as it requires the exact number.

KSBgenerator

KSB

KSB 1

K1 The causes and consequences of network and IT infrastructure failures.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
421CIT: Indicative Content - bullet points 1, 2 and 4 - p.16
521CIT: Indicative Content - bullet points 9 and 12 - p.35

KSB 2

K2 The architecture of typical IT systems, including hardware, OS, server, virtualisation, voice, cloud, and applications.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Partially covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
521CIT: Indicative Content - bullet points 11 and 13 - p.35

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.
The statement is mostly met but requires specific resources/equipment that are not yet currently available to the provider. For clarity, we teach certain operating systems (OS) but not all operating systems. The capital resource strategy is reviewed on a regular basis and there are plans to further invest in equipment in the coming academic year which will meet the requirements of this statement where necessary.

KSB 3

K3 The techniques for systems performance and optimisation.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
521CIT: Indicative Content - bullet points 4 - p.35
Also covered through system logs (not specifically listed but covered)

KSB 4

K4 Diagnostic techniques and tools to interrogate and gather information regarding systems performance.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
521CIT: Indicative Content - bullet points 4, 12 and 15 - p.35

KSB 5

K5 Organizational procedures to deal with recording information effectively and in line with protocols.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Partially covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
415CIT: Indicative Content - bullet points 13 and 14 - p.12

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.
The statement refers to learning being based in an organisation or workplace which students have the opportunity to address through their mandatory work placement. There is also partial coverage of this in

the module as indicated above with regard to cyber essentials.

KSB 6

K6 Service Level Agreements (SLAs) and their application to delivering network engineering activities in line with contractual obligations and customer service.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Partially covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
401CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 1 - p.4

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.
Not currently included but could be added as indicative content, and potentially as a learning outcome, with additional content on Service Level Agreements incorporated into the 401CIT User Experience module.

KSB 7

K7 Their role in Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
521CIT: Indicative Content - bullet points 10, 12 and 17 - p.35

KSB 8

K8 The purposes and uses of ports and protocols.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
421CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 4 - p.16

KSB 9

K9 Devices, applications, protocols, and services at their appropriate OSI and/or TCP/IP layers.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
421CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 - p.16

KSB 10

K10 The concepts and characteristics of routing and switching.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
422CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 4 and 8 - p.20

KSB 11

K11 The characteristics of network topologies, types, and technologies.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
422CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 17 and 18 - p.20

KSB 12

K12 Wireless technologies and configurations.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
421CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 1, 2 and 3 - p.16

KSB 13

K13 Cloud concepts and their purposes.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
521CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 6, 13 and 14 - p.35

KSB 14

K14 Functions of network services.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
521CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 7, 8 and 9 - p.35

KSB 15

K15 The different types of network maintenance.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
521CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 10, 12 and 17 - p.35

KSB 16

K16 How current legislation relates to or impacts occupation.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Partially covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
415CIT: Rationale and content - 3rd paragraph - p.11

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.
This element is covered in the module listed above, and is reviewed annually through both external examiner reports and feedback from the industry advisor linked to the programme. We do cover GDPR matters, Fraud Act and Computer Misuse Act as module content.

KSB 17

K17 Troubleshooting methodologies for network and IT infrastructure.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
521CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 12 - p.35

KSB 18

K18 How to integrate a server into a network.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Partially covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
422CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 1 - p.20

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.
The students gain key skills to configure network devices such as router, switches, PCs, WLAN. These

skills can be applied to integrate other network devices such as servers to the network.

KSB 19

K19 The types of security threats to networks and IT infrastructure assets.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
522CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 1 - p.40

KSB 20

K20 How to use tools to automate network tasks.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
522CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 1 - p.15

KSB 21

K21 Approaches to change management.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Partially covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
415CIT: Learning Outcome - bullet point 2 - p.12

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.
Element can be easily expanded to cover change management approaches when considering the organisational aspects of the course. WCG delivers business and management courses within the same department so there is solid expertise to draw from to ensure this aspect remains current and based on best teaching practice. We do already include analysis of the impact of emerging technologies on business.

KSB 22

S1 Apply the appropriate tools and techniques when securely operating and testing Networks.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
522CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 2, 4, 5, 9 and 11 - p.40

KSB 23

S2 Install and configure the elements required to maintain and manage a secure Network.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
522CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 2, 4, 5, 9 and 11 - p.40

KSB 24

S3 Implement techniques to monitor and record systems performance in line with defined specifications.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
521CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 4 and 9 - p.35
522CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 11 - p.40

KSB 25

S4 Maintain security and performance of the system against known and standard threats.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
522CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 2, 4, 5, 9 and 11 - p.40

KSB 26

S5 Apply the appropriate tools and techniques to identify systems performance issues.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
521CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 12 - p.35

KSB 27

S6 Apply the appropriate tools and techniques to gather information to troubleshoot issues and isolate, repair or escalate faults.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
521CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 15 - p.35
522CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 3 - p.40

KSB 28

S7 Communicate outcomes of tasks and record in line with organisational procedures and SLAs including adherence to good customer service standards.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Partially covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
401CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 1, 2 - p.4, Assessment - p.5
410CIT Assessment - p.9
415CIT Assessment - p.13
520CIT Assessment - p.32
585BMT: Assessment - p.44

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.
The statement partially refers to being based in an organisation or workplace. The assessment methods for the above are communicating findings to an audience (401, 410 and 520 through demonstration, 415 through a seminar, and 585 through a research report). Customer service standards are also covered in 401CIT User Experience.

With reference to previous criteria (K5, K6) it is possible to further enhance this aspect.

KSB 29

S8 Upgrade, apply and test components to systems configurations ensuring that the system meets the organisation's requirements and minimises downtime. This should include backup processes.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
521CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 4, 9, 12, 15, 17 - p.35

KSB 30

S9 Record task details whether face-to-face, remote or in writing in line with ogranisational requirements.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
Students undertake 200 hours of work placement in year 1 and year 2. Time sheets logs are completed

as evidence of activities in the workplace undertaken - and are signed off by employers.

KSB 31

S10 Interpret information received from a manager, customer or technical specialist and accurately implement the defined requirements.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
421,422,521,522 - p.15,19,34,39
During practical lab activities students are given tasks and technical requirements to interpret and demonstrate successful implementation. In placements, students also interpret information from a manager/supervisor.

KSB 32

S11 Monitor, identify and implement required maintenance procedures.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
521CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 10, 15, 17 - p.35

KSB 33

S12 Implement techniques to optimise systems performance in line with defined specifications.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
521CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 10, 15, 18 - p.35

KSB 34

S13 Organise and prioritise clients/stakeholders' requests in line with SLAs and organization processes.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
Students undertaking their work placements will mostly meet this statement as they will need to organise and prioritise their employer/supervisor's requests in line with the organisation's expectations.

KSB 35

S14 Explain their job role within the business context to stakeholders to enable a clear understanding on both sides of what their remit is and convey technical constraints in

appropriate language considering accessibility and diversity implications.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
In the classroom, students take part in discussions and presentations where they are required to express their points in such a way that is easier understood by students with IT background and non IT background.

KSB 36

S15 Operate securely and apply the appropriate process, policies, and legislation within their business responsibilities.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
The statement refers to being based in an organisation or workplace which students undertaking their work placement should meet.

KSB 37

S16 Communicate with a range of stakeholders taking into consideration of organisations cultural awareness and technical ability.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
The statement refers to being based in an organisation or workplace, which students undertaking their work placements should meet.

KSB 38

S17 Apply the appropriate level of responsibility when planning and prioritizing work tasks.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
Covered both on a course level as students are provided with an assessment planner and must manage their time effectively.

Students on work placement will also need to meet this statement.

KSB 39

S18 Apply the relevant numerical skills (Binary, dotted decimal notation) required to meet the defines specifications.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
421CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 9, 10 and 12 - p.16

KSB 40

S19 Ensure compliance of network engineering outputs with change management processes.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Partially covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
The statement refers to being based in an organisation or workplace; students will have the opportunity to meet this statement from undertaking their work placement.

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.
Would be partially covered with reference to K21.

KSB 41

S20 Select the appropriate tools and comply with organisation policies and processes when upgrading systems.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Partially covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
522CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 11 - p.40

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.
Partially covered as statement refers to being based in an organisation or workplace; students will have the opportunity to meet this statement from undertaking their work placement.

KSB 42

B1 Work independently and demonstrate initiative being resourceful when faced with a problem and taking responsibility for solving problems within their own remit.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
421,422,521,522 - p.15,19,34,39

Students are given topics that they have to write reports and justify how they meet all the criteria. Students develop an attitude to work harder to meet or exceed given requirements/expectations.

KSB 43

B2 Work securely within the business.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
421CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 16 - p.14

KSB 44

B3 Work within the goals, vision, and values of the organisation.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
Students undertaking their work placement will meet this requirement.

KSB 45

B4 Take a wider view of the strategic objectives of the tasks/ projects they are working on including the implications for accessibility by users and diversity.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
421CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 1 - p.14
521CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 9 - p.35

KSB 46

B5 Works to meet or exceed customers' requirements and expectations.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
421,422,521,522 - p.15,19,34,39

Students undertaking their work placement will meet this requirement.

KSB 47

B6 Identifies issues quickly, investigates and solves complex problems and applies appropriate solutions. Ensures the true root cause of any problem is found and a solution is identified which prevents recurrence.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
521CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 2 and 12 - p.35
522CIT: Indicative Content - bullet point 2 and 12 - p.11

KSB 48

B7 Committed to continued professional development to ensure growth in professional skill and knowledge.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
FdSc Computing and Cybersecurity Module Handbook 2020
400WCG: Learning Outcome - bullet point 3 - p.24

KSB 49

B8 Work effectively under pressure showing resilience.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?
Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?
421,422,521,522 - p.15,19,34,39

All the above modules have timed test that require students complete practical labs within given time to avoid penalties developing behaviour to work under pressure.

Additional occupationally relevant content

Additional occupationally relevant content

Item 1

As well as the content aligned to the knowledge, skills and behaviours in the occupational standard, the qualification can include additional occupationally relevant content which is deemed of value to employers. Awarding bodies are asked to justify any content that does not directly align to the occupational standard, using evidence from employers.

Content should be identified at a unit or modular level and each item should be added separately by using the Add Item button. If the qualification does not include any additional content, please leave this section blank.

Unit or module containing additional content
401CIT: User Experience

Please give a short description of the additional content
Principles of user experience design and customer service: understanding user requirements, psychology and customer interaction

Where within the qualification is the additional content covered?

Please provide an explanation of how the content is relevant to the occupation, including evidence from employers that supports its inclusion in the qualification.
Provides additional transferable skills which will support a learner in their career within an occupation In particular, this is a good grounding for dealing with stakeholders,understanding frustrations and issues, and solutions for solving them.

Item 2

As well as the content aligned to the knowledge, skills and behaviours in the occupational standard, the qualification can include additional occupationally relevant content which is deemed of value to employers. Awarding bodies are asked to justify any content that does not directly align to the occupational standard, using evidence from employers.

Content should be identified at a unit or modular level and each item should be added separately by using the Add Item button. If the qualification does not include any additional content, please leave this section blank.

Unit or module containing additional content
410CIT: System Analysis and Database Design

Please give a short description of the additional content
Theories of system life cycles: models and stages

Where within the qualification is the additional content covered?
Module Handbook - 410CIT: Indicative Content - p.8

Please provide an explanation of how the content is relevant to the occupation, including evidence from employers that supports its inclusion in the qualification.
This can increase the breadth and depth of understanding of a learner in their chosen occupational field and also in the sector – undertaking any theoretical or practical 'project' is likely to follow a lifecycle process.

Item 3

As well as the content aligned to the knowledge, skills and behaviours in the occupational standard, the qualification can include additional occupationally relevant content which is deemed of value to employers. Awarding bodies are asked to justify any content that does not directly align to the occupational standard, using evidence from employers.

Content should be identified at a unit or modular level and each item should be added separately by using the Add Item button. If the qualification does not include any additional content, please leave this section blank.

Unit or module containing additional content
410CIT: System Analysis and Database Design

Please give a short description of the additional content
Databases and data management systems and the theoretical understanding to designing, creating and documenting databases

Where within the qualification is the additional content covered?

Please provide an explanation of how the content is relevant to the occupation, including evidence from employers that supports its inclusion in the qualification.
Although not directly relevant to the network engineer specific occupation, learners who go on to work in an IT department may require knowledge of this subject. Our discussions with employers suggest that this is important content for the FdSc.

Assessment methods

Assessment methods

Please confirm that the assessment covers all of the content relevant to the knowledge, skills and behaviours in the occupational standard.
Yes

Please outline the methods used to assess the content and provide a rationale for why these methods are valid for the qualification.
The main networking modules of the qualification (421CIT, 422CIT, 521CIT and 522CIT) comprise of a practical timed test, a theory timed test and a report. The theory and practical tests cover the syllabus for the Cisco CCNA certification. On completion of the modules, students are prepared to sit external tests to achieve certification. As this is directly linked to the majority of the network engineer standard it allows students to demonstrate their skills, knowledge and behaviours. The additional individual report, alongside the practical timed test, allows students to demonstrate their knowledge further by drawing on literature and industry sources to show they understand the topic. The course has an industry advisor and external examiner who provide regular feedback on the course (and assessments) to ensure that they are occupationally relevant.

To complete a Foundation Degree students must undertake 400 hours of work placement. This is recorded using time logs which are signed by the employer and work placement officer to confirm relevant industry experience has been completed. Due to the practical nature of the course, the assessments provide opportunities to use skills that they would need to replicate in the workplace.

Employer engagement

Employer engagement

Please describe how employers and industry practitioners were consulted throughout the development of the qualification, including:

- the process of identifying and recruiting relevant employers

- how employers were involved in the development, review and validation of the qualification

materials.

Please describe how employers and industry practitioners were consulted throughout the development of the qualification.
WCG validates its own Foundation Degrees and has well established quality systems in place to ensure that subject benchmarks are met and that all level 5 courses align with the Framework of Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ). In addition, employer representatives contribute to validation and review events and are part of the decision-making process relating to quality, standards and currency of the award being considered. Course teams, led by the Subject Leader, are able to draw on ongoing support and advice from the Industry Advisor attached to the programme, and this advice informs future course developments for new and existing provision.   Industry Advisors visit the college, meet with students and tutors, and provide feedback on how the course meets the needs of employers, as well as identifying areas that can be enhanced.
Employer feedback is further embedded within the programme through the strong relationships established for student placements. These are nurtured and updated by the Higher Education work placement coordinator. Opportunities are available for employers, who offer placements to students, to provide feedback to both the student and the course team.

Feedback from employers during the most recent periodic review was positive, referring to the depth of the indicative content which goes beyond the scope of the Cisco CCNA qualification and Cyber Essentials, as well as for the practical nature of the course. The suggestion to move from Java to Python as the programming language covered on the course was also incorporated, as it is more relevant for this particular pathway.

During the mapping of the Foundation Degree to the Network engineer standard, employer feedback was directly sought. It was agreed that there are criteria that should be covered and applied during their work placement (which is mandatory on the WCG Foundation Degree). There are elements of the standard, particularly Service Level Agreements, current legislation, and change management which are not fully covered at present which could easily be incorporated into the programme.

There is content within the programme that goes beyond the current standard. During validation and review, employer panel representatives, in addition to our Industry Advisor, have stressed the importance of students understanding user experience which is a key element of working with customers and clients, and that project management is also beneficial for systems analysis.