

## **Awarding body information**

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## **Awarding body information**

What is the name of the awarding body? The Open University

Is the awarding body a higher education provider?

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?

Diploma of Higher Education in Computing and IT

Is the qualification on the Ofqual register?

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 Software developer/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 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<sub>1</sub>

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?

See network engineer mapping document

### KSB<sub>2</sub>

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

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See network engineer mapping document

### 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?

See network engineer mapping document

### 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?

See network engineer mapping document

### KSB 5

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

### Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

### Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See network engineer mapping document

### 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?

Fully covered

### Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See network engineer mapping document

### 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?

See network engineer mapping document

### KSB 8

K8 The purposes and uses of ports and protocols.

Fully covered

### Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See network engineer mapping document

### 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?

See network engineer mapping document

### **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?

See network engineer mapping document

### **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?

See network engineer mapping document

### **KSB 12**

K12 Wireless technologies and configurations.

### Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

### Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See network engineer mapping document

### **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?

See network engineer mapping document

K14 Functions of network services.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See network engineer mapping document

### **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?

See network engineer mapping document

### **KSB 16**

K16 How current legislation relates to or impacts occupation.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Not covered

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.

We do not address this in our current curriculum at levels 4 and 5

### **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?

See network engineer mapping document

### **KSB 18**

K18 How to integrate a server into a network.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See network engineer mapping document

### **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?

See network engineer mapping document

### **KSB 20**

K20 How to use tools to automate network tasks.

### Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Not covered

# Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.

We do not address this in our current curriculum at levels 4 and 5

### **KSB 21**

**K21** Approaches to change management.

### Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

### Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See network engineer mapping document

### **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?

See network engineer mapping document

### **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?

See network engineer mapping document

### **KSB 24**

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

Not covered

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.

We do not address this in our current curriculum at levels 4 and 5

### **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?

See network engineer mapping document

### **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?

See network engineer mapping document

### **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?

See network engineer mapping document

### **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?

Not covered

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.

This cannot be achieved via classroom learning, but will require some form of internship or employer training

### **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?

Not covered

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.

This cannot be achieved via classroom learning, but will require some form of internship or employer training

### **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?

See network engineer mapping document

### **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?

See network engineer mapping document

### **KSB 32**

S11 Monitor, identify and implement required maintenance procedures.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Not covered

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.

This cannot be achieved via classroom learning, but will require some form of internship or employer training

### **KSB 33**

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

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Not covered

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.

We do not address this in our current curriculum at levels 4 and 5

### **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?

See network engineer mapping document

### **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?

Not covered

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.

This cannot be achieved via classroom learning, but will require some form of internship or employer training

### **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?

See network engineer mapping document

### **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?

See network engineer mapping document

### **KSB 38**

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

Not covered

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.

This cannot be achieved via classroom learning, but will require some form of internship or employer training

### **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?

See network engineer mapping document

### **KSB 40**

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

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Not covered

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.

This cannot be achieved via classroom learning, but will require some form of internship or employer training

### **KSB 41**

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

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Not covered

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.

This cannot be achieved via classroom learning, but will require some form of internship or employer training

### **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?

See network engineer mapping document

B2 Work securely within the business.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Not covered

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.

This cannot be achieved via classroom learning, but will require some form of internship or employer training

### **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?

See network engineer mapping document

### **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?

See network engineer mapping document

### **KSB 46**

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

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Not covered

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.

This cannot be achieved via classroom learning, but will require some form of internship or employer training

### **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?

See network engineer mapping document

### **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?

See network engineer mapping document

### **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?

See network engineer mapping document

## Software developer

## Software developer

# Knowledge, skills and behaviours coverage within the qualification

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## **KSBgenerator**

### KSB<sub>1</sub>

K1 All stages of the software development life cycle (what each stage contains, including the inputs and outputs).

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### KSB<sub>2</sub>

K2 Roles and responsibilities within the software development lifecycle (who is responsible for what).

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### KSB 3

K3 The roles and responsibilities of the project life cycle within your organisation, and your role.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Not covered

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.

This cannot be achieved via classroom learning, but will require some form of internship or employer training

### KSB 4

K4 How best to communicate using the different communication methods and how to adapt appropriately to different audiences.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### KSB 5

K5 The similarities and differences between different software development methodologies, such as agile and waterfall.

Not covered

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.

We do not address this in our current curriculum at levels 4 and 5 (we address it at level 6)

### KSB 6

K6 How teams work effectively to produce software and how to contribute appropriately.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### KSB 7

K7 Software design approaches and patterns, to identify reusable solutions to commonly occurring problems.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### KSB 8

K8 Organisational policies and procedures relating to the tasks being undertaken, and when to follow them. For example, the storage and treatment of GDPR sensitive data.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

#### KSB 9

K9 Principles of algorithms, logic and data structures relevant to software development for example: arrays, stacks, queues, linked lists, trees, graphs, hash tables, sorting algorithms, searching algorithms, critical sections and race conditions.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### **KSB 10**

K10 Principles and uses of relational and non-relational databases

### Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

### Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### **KSB 11**

K11 Software designs and functional/technical specifications

### Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

### Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### **KSB 12**

K12 Software testing frameworks and methodologies

### Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

### Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### **KSB 13**

S1 Create logical and maintainable codes.

### Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

### Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### **KSB 14**

S2 Develop effective user interfaces.

### Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

### Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### **KSB 15**

S3 Link code to data sets.

### Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

### Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### **KSB 16**

S4 Test code and analyse results to correct errors found using unit testing.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### **KSB 17**

S5 Conduct a range of test types, such as Integration, System, User Acceptance, Non-Functional, Performance and Security testing.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Not covered

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.

We do not address this in our current curriculum at levels 4 and 5 (we address it at level 6)

### **KSB 18**

S6 Identify and create test scenarios.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### **KSB 19**

S7 Apply structured techniques to problem solving, can debug code and can understand the structure of programmes to identify and resolve issues.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See network mapping document

### **KSB 20**

S8 Create simple software designs to effectively communicate understanding of the program.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

S9 Create analysis artefacts, such as use cases and/or user stories.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### **KSB 22**

\$10 Build, manage and deploy code into the relevant environment.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Not covered

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.

This cannot be achieved via classroom learning, but will require some form of internship or employer training

### **KSB 23**

S11 Apply an appropriate software development approach according to the relevant paradigm (for example object oriented, event driven or procedural).

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### **KSB 24**

S12 Follow software designs and functional/technical specifications.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### **KSB 25**

S13 Follow testing frameworks and methodologies.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Not covered

Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.

We do not address this in our current curriculum at levels 4 and 5 (we address it at level 6)

S14 Follow company, team or client approaches to continuous integration, version and source control.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### **KSB 27**

S15 Communicate software solutions and ideas to technical and non-technical stakeholders.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### **KSB 28**

S16 Apply algorithms, logic and data structures.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### **KSB 29**

S17 Interpret and implement a given design whist remaining compliant with security and maintainability requirements.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### **KSB 30**

B1 Works independently and takes responsibility. For example, has a disciplined and responsible approach to risk, and stays motivated and committed when facing challenges.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Partially covered

### Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Across most modules, through our embedded employability skills development across the curriculum - see employability framework mapping submitted

# Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.

This type of behaviour is encouraged by our pedagogical and assessment design across modules, although it does not relate to any particular module learning outcomes. This is because OU students are typically adult learners, often in full time employment or with significant caring responsibilities, so that commitment, self-discipline and self-motivation are necessary for study success and developed throughout their studies.

### **KSB 31**

B2 Applies logical thinking. For example, uses clear and valid reasoning when making decisions related to undertaking work instructions.

### Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

### Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### **KSB 32**

B3 Maintains a productive, professional and secure working environment.

### Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Not covered

# Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.

This cannot be achieved via classroom learning, but will require some form of internship or employer training

### **KSB 33**

B4 Works collaboratively with a wide range of people in different roles, internally and externally, with a positive attitude to inclusion & diversity.

### Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Partially covered

### Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Partially, through our embedded employability skills development across the curriculum

# Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.

This type of behaviour is encouraged by our pedagogical and assessment design across modules, although it does not relate to any particular module learning outcomes. Widening participation, inclusion and respect for diversity are cornerstones of the OU mission, so that their ethos permeate all pedagogy,

### **KSB 34**

B5 Acts with integrity with respect to ethical, legal and regulatory ensuring the protection of personal data, safety and security.

Fully covered

### Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### **KSB 35**

B6 Shows initiative for solving problems within their own remit, being resourceful when faced with a problem to solve.

### Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

### Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### **KSB 36**

B7 Communicates effectively in a variety of situations to both a technical and nontechnical audience.

### Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

### Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### **KSB 37**

B8 Shows curiosity to the business context in which the solution will be used, displaying an inquisitive approach to solving the problem. This includes the curiosity to explore new opportunities, and techniques; the tenacity to improve methods and maximise performance of the solution; and creativity in their approach to solutions.

### Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Partially covered

### Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Partially, through our embedded employability skills development across the curriculum

# Please provide an explanation for the omission or partial coverage of this statement from the qualification.

Problem solving, in particular, is encouraged across most modules, through pedagogical approaches which relate knowledge and learning to real-world problems and situations.

### **KSB 38**

B9 Demonstrates creativity and tenacity in their approach to solutions and the methods used to come to a solution for example, sees the task through to the end by devising new solutions and despite obstacles and problems along the way.

### Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

### Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

See software engineer mapping document

### **KSB 39**

B10 Committed to continued professional development.

Is the statement covered within the qualification? Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered? See software engineer mapping document

## 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

Please give a short description of the additional content

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.

### **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.

Assessment of the qualification learning outcomes is via the assessment of each module's related learning outcomes. Typically, within each module, there will be a mix of formative assessment for learning (to help learners develop their knowledge and abilities) and summative assessment of learning (to ensure learners reach the required academic standards). Each module assessment is developed by the same academic team who is responsible for designing and delivering the module content, is based on institutional assessment and pedagogical standards, and is rigorously quality assured and enhanced year on year through continuous engagement with external academic and industrial reviewers.

The nature of the assessment will depend on what is being assessed, so that a mix of practical exercises and discursive essay-type questions are applied, complemented by more substantial project work. Whenever appropriate, students are asked to apply their learning within their own professional context, although assessment is designed to be applicable more widely, as the modules are key components in a wide range of programmes, not just those targeted to IT professions.

The module descriptors we have provided give a succinct indication of the assessment strategy at module level and how each learning outcome is assessed, while the sample assessment materials provide a wide range of examples of the various task types learners are required to undertake.

Sections 2.1 to 2.3 of our submitted statement provide more information on how we develop our programmes to support of our learners' career aspirations and the needs of industry, employers and professional bodies, with whom we collaborate to design and develop our curriculum. The industrial contacts in the list we have provided will be able to corroborate our statement.

## 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.

See section 2.2 of our submitted statement. Attached is also our list of contacts.