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## WELCOME

Welcome to our December issue of the Sunderland Digital Careers newsletter.

In this newsletter, you will find information on our upcoming events, including the Sunderland Digital Careers Expo.

We will be showing you our 12 Days of Techmas song, and talk about some of the amazing resources we have sent out as part of this.

As always, we have a career highlight to show you some wonderful job roles that are out there and continue to look at options available to you after school.

We hope you have a wonderful Christmas break, and wish you a very happy and healthy 2023. See you in the New Year!


If you have any questions about the newsletter, please get in touch:

[jessica.sawyers@sunderlandsoftwarecity.com](mailto:jessica.sawyers@sunderlandsoftwarecity.com)



# 12 DAYS OF TECHMAS

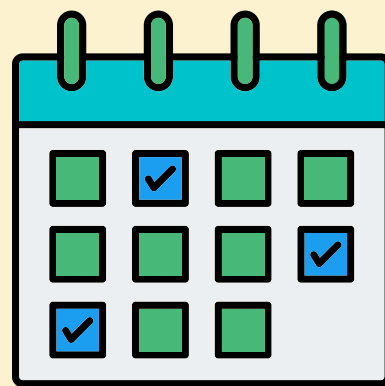
You have probably heard about the 12 Days of Christmas, BUT.....what about the 12 Days of Techmas? Have a read of our 12 Days.....



Twelve tech jobs becoming  
Eleven people typing  
Ten gaming seeking  
Nine skills life-enhancing  
Eight digital filmings  
Seven techers grinning  
Six VR playing  
Five digital things  
Four cool new words  
Three camera lens  
Two techy challenges  
And a career opportunity

Over the 12 Days of Techmas, we have been sending out competitions and resources. From a photo competition to some cool information about jobs in the Tech Sector, we have it covered!

For more information about any of the resources we sent out, ask the careers lead in your school, or email [jessica.sawyers@sunderlandsoftwarecity.com](mailto:jessica.sawyers@sunderlandsoftwarecity.com)



## TERM CALENDAR

**Friday 23rd December**

Christmas Break  
Tech Challenge

**Monday 30th January**

Sunderland Digital Careers Expo

**6th - 12th February**

National Apprenticeships Week

**Saturday 11th February**

International Day of Women and  
Girls in STEM

**6th - 11th March**

National Careers Week

## SUNDERLAND DIGITAL CAREERS EXPO

On Monday 30th January 2023 we invite you and your parents/carers to meet digital and STEM businesses and educators from the region.

Come along and chat with them about what they do, what job roles they have and how you could work for them in the future!

They will be showcasing their work and will be an evening full of opportunity, so come along! Some businesses coming along to speak to you include Maadigital, BAI Communications and Mediaworks.



**SCAN TO  
BOOK A SLOT**

## CAREER HIGHLIGHT: CONCEPT ARTIST (GAMES)

Concept artists are responsible for the style and look of a game. They are the first to draw the environments, enemies and player characters. Working with a brief from the producer, their sketches are used to help 3D artists, producers, programmers and publishers understand how the game will look.

The drawings of the concept artist are a vital part of the game's development as they are the starting point of all the artwork and an important part of the marketing plans.

To be a successful concept artist in games, some good skills to have include art, creativity, knowledge of art software, communication and knowledge of games. To have a career in this role, it would be useful to take A Levels in art or graphic design, or a vocational subject such as a BTEC in Art and Design or Creative Digital Media Production. If you can add some physics or computer science into the mix, that will give you a rounded set of skills that are ideal for a career in games. Building a portfolio could also prove useful. Learn the software, experiment with games engines and start creating work that you can show to admissions tutors or employers.



## SOCIAL MEDIA

Click on the social icons below, or visit our website for lots of fantastic resources!



inspired\_ne



Inspired\_NE



Skills Resources



## WHAT TO DO AFTER SCHOOL

Did you know you can combine work and study? We will show you some options for this in the upcoming newsletters.

## SCHOOL LEAVER SCHEMES

School leavers schemes are a chance to learn and train with a large company while earning a wage. Offered in sectors like accountancy, engineering, finance, IT, law, leisure and retail.

You'll often rotate between different locations with the same company to get experience and it can include distance learning or time in college or university.

The duration of a school leavers scheme is between 3 - 7 years depending on what you do.

Entry requirements for the scheme is usually high grade A levels or equivalent and a keen interest in the sector you want to work in.

For more information on digital/tech careers and additional information on anything featured in this month's newsletter, please contact: [jessica.sawyers@sunderlandsoftwarecity.com](mailto:jessica.sawyers@sunderlandsoftwarecity.com)