

Ada, the National College for Digital Skills

SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS

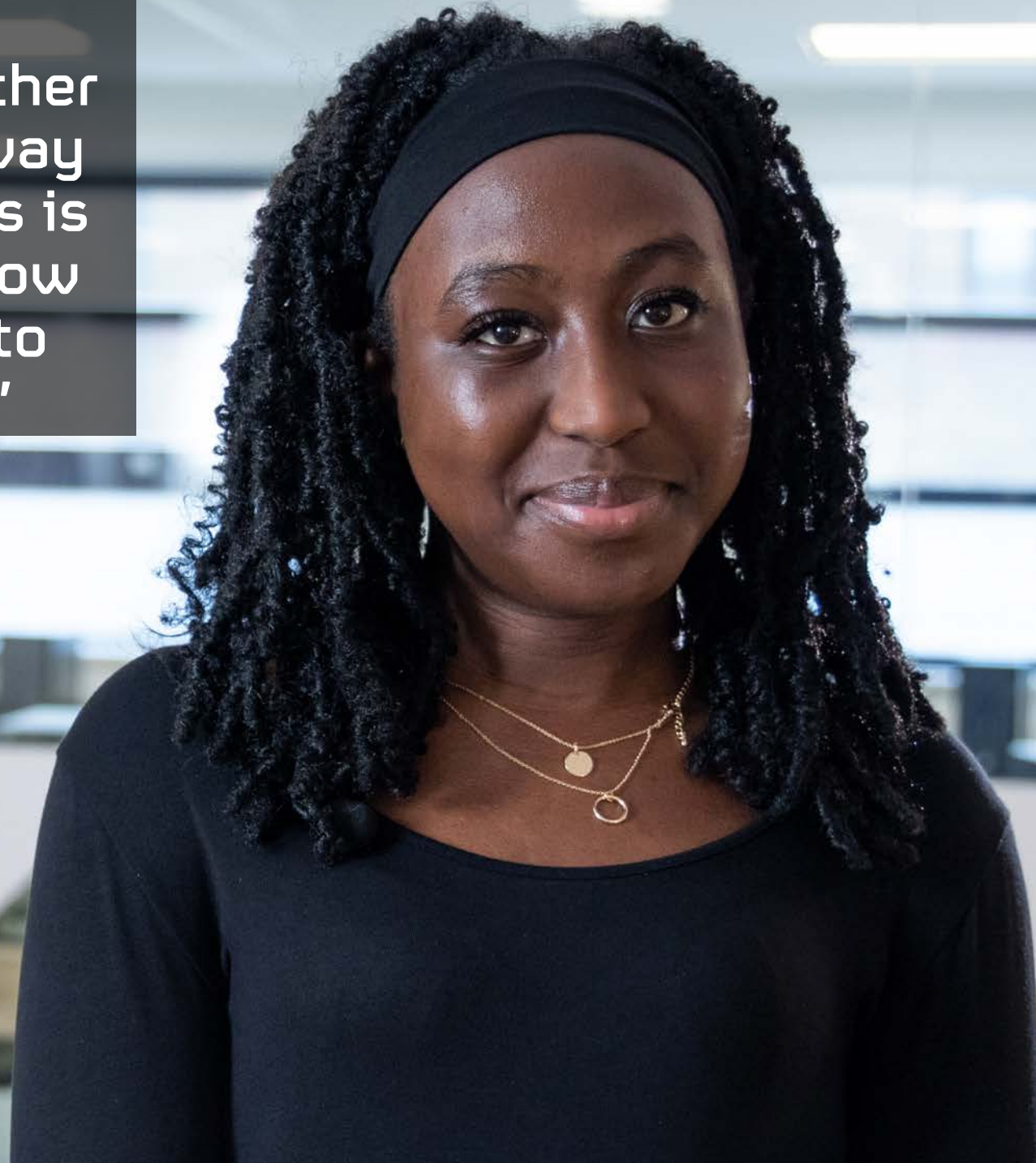
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Sixth Form College
for BTEC Computing
results nationally

"The education Ada provides is unique to other colleges because the way they teach the subjects is very different. They allow opportunities for you to learn from industry."

VIVIAN

Former Ada Sixth Form student



We are the National College for Digital Skills, with our Sixth Form College serving as a springboard into the technology industry for aspiring digital pioneers. With over 130,000 tech jobs unfilled in the UK every year, there are huge opportunities for young people to have a flourishing career in this sector. This is why here at Ada, we foster in our students the creative, technical and entrepreneurial

skills needed for any digital career, ranging from software engineering to graphic design. We do this through our unique, industry-focused curriculum, developed in partnership with leading technology companies and taught by our teaching staff who themselves have substantial industry experience.

I hope you find the information in this prospectus valuable and informative and I look forward to welcoming you through Ada's doors in the future.

Tina Götschi
Principal



PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME



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OUR MISSION

Ada's mission is to educate and empower the next generation of diverse digital talent.

Our Values

Everything we do at Ada, from industry projects to the enrichment programme, is built around our college values: curiosity, rigour, creativity, collaboration and resilience. We believe that these qualities are critical for success no matter what your future plans and will actively nurture and develop them throughout your time with us.



We want our students to secure an outstanding digital career, which is why industry involvement is central to Ada's curriculum. We work with a range of employers, including: **Deloitte** (a global professional services company); **Salesforce** (who provide customer relationship management solutions); **Bank of America** (one of the world's leading financial institutions) and **King** (mobile game developer).

Our partner organisations come to Ada to deliver unique industry projects, where students spend 3 days with people from the company. You could be doing anything from designing recruitment software with Salesforce to creating prototype games with King. But whatever the project, you will develop the transferable and technical skills that are vital for tech careers, such as project management, collaboration and data analysis.

INDUSTRY



Ada College Hackathon with Deloitte



Other Salesforce Apprenticeship Pathways



Business Admin
Level 2
Employee Success
Customer Success
Project Manager
Legal

Digital Marketing
Level 2
Paid Marketing
Digital Marketing
Event Management

Project Management
Level 4
Solution Engineering
Customer Success
Project Management

Data Literacy
Level 3
Sales Operations
Sales Operations

Sales Development
Level 4
Sales Development
Sales Development

Recruiting Appointy via Multiscreen

Follow on LinkedIn



Ada Apprentices with Salesforce present to our students

BTEC DIPLOMA IN **COMPUTER SCIENCE**



CREATOR PATHWAY

A Level **Media Studies**
or
A Level **Graphics**

& Level 3 Maths Studies (optional)



PIONEER PATHWAY

Extended Diploma **Computing**
or
A Level **Maths**

& Further Maths (optional)



INNOVATOR PATHWAY

A Level **Psychology**
or
A Level **Business Studies**

& Level 3 Maths Studies (optional)



Industry projects designed with leading technology companies




OUR CURRICULUM

Here at Ada, our aim is to futureproof our student's career. So our students take one of three curriculum pathways (Pioneer, Innovator or Creator) designed to ensure that they thrive in the modern workplace. Learners all take Computer Science BTEC, which gives them the core skills required to develop their digital future.

Our standard entry requirements are that students have achieved an average grade of a 5 or above in their GCSEs, including at least a 4 in English

Language and Maths. Certain courses also have their own specific entry requirements.

We do understand that sometimes circumstances mean that students who have the potential to succeed at Ada might not meet our standard entry requirements. At Ada's discretion, we may be able to accept students who are in this position and encourage you to make an application if you feel this is the case.



The **Creator pathway** provides all the right tools to start a successful career in this fast growing digital industry as students will learn a range of cutting edge technical, creative and communication skills, ranging from graphic design to digital magazine production, from animation to the critical analysis of online video content.

On this pathway, alongside the BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Computing, students will study either an A Level in Media Studies or an A Level in Art and Design (Graphic communication).

Examples of progression and career opportunities include: graphic designer, media planner, computer games designer, social media strategist, broadcast journalist and even some jobs that don't even exist yet. The next steps might be studying at University or embarking on a Digital Degree Apprenticeship Programme to work with one of our amazing partners and study alongside this for a degree.

Our hands-on programme encourages creative students to explore new ideas through research and project-based work and these students play an integral part of every industry project with their understanding of technology, gained through the core study of Computing, augmented by their deep understanding of the use of media or graphics to drive commercial success.

CREATOR PATHWAY

A photograph of three young men in a classroom or computer lab. They are gathered around a laptop, looking at the screen with interest. The student on the left is wearing large headphones and glasses. The student in the middle is also wearing glasses. The student on the right is wearing glasses and has his hand on the laptop keyboard. The background shows other students and classroom equipment.


PIONEER PATHWAY

Taking the **Pioneer pathway** students will learn a range of cutting edge technical, mathematical and data communication skills, ranging from technical programming to collaborative logical problem solving, from investigations using technology to the critical analysis of data.

On this pathway, alongside your BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Computing, students will study either an A Level in Mathematics (and possibly also Further Mathematics) or the 3 A Level equivalent BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Computing.

Examples of progression and career opportunities include: Software Engineer, Database Developer, Cyber Security Engineer, Data Analyst, Game Developer and even some jobs that don't even exist yet. The next steps might be studying at University or embarking on a Digital Degree Apprenticeship Programme to work with one of our amazing partners and study alongside this for a degree.

Pioneer students explore new ideas through research and project-based work and these students play an integral part of every industry project with their understanding of technology, gained through the core study of Computing, augmented by their deeper understanding of technology and data to drive commercial success.



The **Innovator pathway** paves the way for a successful career in this fast growing digital industry as students will learn a range of cutting edge people or business methods and research, analysis, evaluation and communication skills, ranging from finance to marketing in Business Studies production, and from Biopsychology to Cognitive neuroscience in Psychology.

On this pathway, alongside the BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Computing, students will study either an A Level in Business Studies or an A Level in Psychology.

Examples of progression and career opportunities include: Project Manager, User experience (UX) Analyst or Designer, Product manager, Business Analyst or Digital Marketer and even some jobs that don't even exist yet. The next steps might be studying at University or embarking on a Digital Degree Apprenticeship Programme to work with one of our amazing partners and study alongside this for a degree.

Our hands-on programme encourages innovator students to explore new ideas through research and project-based work and these students play an integral part of every industry project with their understanding of technology, gained through the core study of Computing, augmented by their deep understanding of behaviour.

INNOVATOR PATHWAY


A group of four students and one staff member are gathered around a tablet in a classroom. The staff member, a woman with long braids wearing a beige cardigan and a lanyard that says 'STAFF', is pointing at the screen. Three students are looking at the tablet: a girl in a blue hijab, a girl with curly hair, and a girl in a patterned headscarf. The background shows a classroom with a whiteboard and posters.

LIFE AT ADA

Enrichment Activities

Once a week, our students take part in one of our many enrichment clubs and societies.

- Manga
- Football
- Climbing
- Professional coaching
- Badminton

A photograph of two young women sitting at a desk, looking at a laptop. The woman on the left has dark hair and is wearing a red and blue jacket. The woman on the right has braided hair and is wearing a white cable-knit sweater with a dark V-neck and a black lanyard with the word 'STUDENT' repeated. They are both looking intently at the laptop screen. The background is a blurred indoor setting with a yellow door.

Pastoral Support

Our pastoral team works with students to support their special educational needs or medical requirements. This involves working one-on-one with these students to put together individual plans to ensure they reach their full potential.

Counselling at Ada


Counselling is a chance to talk about things - relationships, feelings, situations - that can sometimes be difficult and get in the way of us living our lives. We provide drop in sessions for our students during break time or lunch time if needed.

LIFE AT ADA

Ada Grants & the Sir Simon Milton Bursary

We recognise that some students' circumstances mean that they might need financial assistance in order to complete their academic programme. This is why we offer a range of financial support including a travel grant (covering a proportion of a student's yearly travel costs) and a progression bursary (supporting costs associated with progression to university or apprenticeships e.g. travel to open events). Eligibility criteria for these grants are shared during the enrolment process.

Finally, all students are eligible to lease a laptop from the college for the duration of their studies. This is free of charge for those who meet the eligibility criteria for the other grants and requires a £50 refundable deposit for all other students.



Ada is excited to be offering a T Level in Digital Production, Design and Development for the first time from September 2023. T Levels are new two-year, Level 3 study programmes that combine classroom theory, practical learning and industry placement with an employer to make sure students have real experience of the workplace.

The T Level will see students learning from a curriculum that has been shaped by industry experts. During the two-year programme, students will learn the core knowledge that underpins Digital Production, Design and Development including:

- programming
- emerging issues and impact of digital
- legislation and regulatory requirements
- business contexts
- data
- digital environments
- security

They will also develop occupationally specific skills that will allow them to enter skilled employment within the digital sector. Future job roles that this qualification could lead to include: Software, Web, Mobile App or Games Junior Developer roles.

In order to enrol on this T Level at Ada students will need to have a GCSE average of 5 or above and at least a grade 4 or above in English Language and Maths.

**NEW
T LEVEL**



ADMISSIONS PROCESS

Step 1-

Read through our courses and choose which course would suit you the best. If you have any trouble deciding which course you would like to study, please contact sixthformadmissions@ada.ac.uk and we would be happy to help.

Step 2-

Apply through the website (ada.ac.uk) once you have chosen your selected course.

Step 3-

You will be invited to an Assessment Centre, where you will have two 10 minute interviews with our staff.

Step 4-

We will be in contact with you after the Assessment Centre to let you know if we have offered you a place. You will have many opportunities throughout the year to attend Ada events and learn more about our Digital Community.

Step 5-

Enrolment!



You will be one of the first students with Ada in our new Victoria campus. This new building has state-of-the-art facilities and we hope that you are as excited as we are.

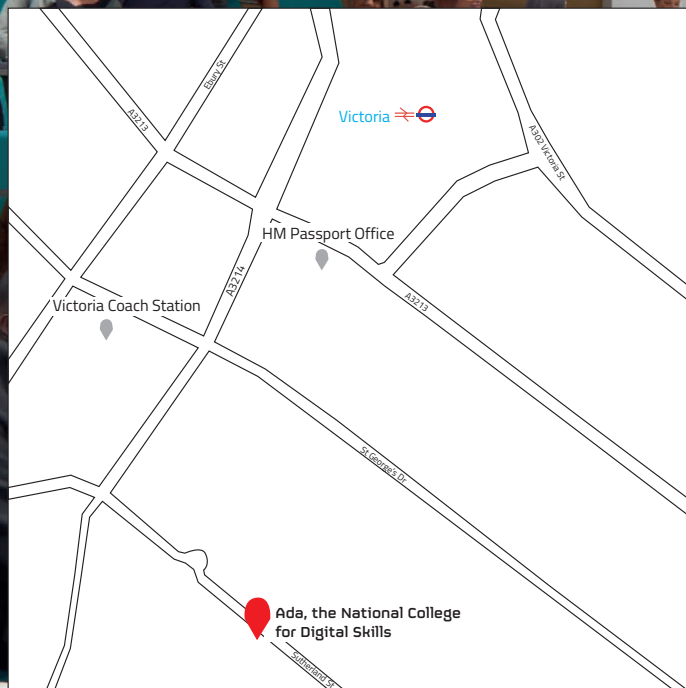
Journey Times via Tube or Train

- Kings Cross (15 mins)
- Liverpool Street (19 mins)
- Euston (22 mins)
- Stratford (30 mins)
- Vauxhall (6 mins)
- Gospel Oak (32mins)
- Finchley Central (31 mins)

TRAVEL TO VICTORIA CAMPUS

"By moving to the heart of London, anyone in Greater London and the South East, with an interest in tech, will be able to benefit from our outstanding teaching and hugely supportive culture. Young people have had a tough few years and Ada offers them a real opportunity to acquire skills sets that will set them apart from their peers and transform their life chances. Our new state-of-the-art campus in London Victoria will be an amazing hub for our students and staff to collaborate with our wide range of industry partners."

SOPHIE CLIFTON, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS





"The Ada community makes me feel safe, it makes me feel motivated to do my work and to not give up when things get difficult."

KATRINA

Ada Sixth Form Student



Apply now at
www.ada.ac.uk

On our website you will find information on

Key Dates
Travelling to Ada
Registration Procedure and Process
Open Days
Tours

If you would like to know more, please do not hesitate
to get in touch with our Admissions department.

sixthformadmissions@ada.ac.uk

THINK. CREATE. DEVELOP. WITH ADA

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