
To contact the NCSC CyberFirst team regarding any of the items mentioned in this newsletter please email cfstakeholders@ncsc.gov.uk

CYBERFIRST BURSARY SCHEME

It’s been a busy but exciting period for the bursary team. We have now launched our new Cbay v2 tool and begun bringing both hosts and students on to the platform. All hosts should now have been contacted and given instructions how to sign in and create summer placement vacancies. It is very important to complete this action as soon as possible. If you have not received an email from us or have any questions regarding the new Cbay platform please email CFCbay@ncsc.gov.uk. The launch of Cbay v2 marks a transition to a far more transparent matching process for both hosts and students which has been one of the reoccurring areas requested for improvement, so we are keen to hear feedback as you grow familiar with the tool!

As we launch Cbay we are also continuing to keep an eye on the numbers for summer placements as well as Graduate roles. We have a requirement for around 450 summer placements this year, and are currently looking for around 30 more placements from our hosts in order to meet this target. This is our largest year ever so every placement matters, if you haven’t yet committed to take a student or you could take more please let us know by emailing CFStakeholders@ncsc.gov.uk

This is also our largest year for graduates (over 140) and there are still around 60 CyberFirst students seeking employment. You have a window of opportunity where graduating students are required to accept offers from CF partners, please action any applications asap to ensure you benefit from being a part of the programme! If you have any questions regarding hosting summer placements or taking a CyberFirst graduate please email CFStakeholders@ncsc.gov.uk
The event will be organised into 3 streams:

• CyberInsights (Tech style talks on topics picked by the students)
• The Cyber Challenge Zone (Interaction hands on workshops and challenges)
• CyberDash (Quick fire questions to industry experts in small groups)

If you are interested in supporting this event, please get in touch with Madeline (madeline.h@cyberhub.uk).

CYBERFIRST SCHOOLS TO LAUNCH!

On 26th February we will be launching CyberFirst Schools as a pilot in Gloucestershire and across Wales.

The aim of the new programme is to recognise those schools whose approach to cyber and cyber security education is excellent. In addition we are seeking schools who not only focus on cyber education within the schools but collaborate and share with others.

We see this as a positive step in supporting our ever growing cyber-security education eco system, helping support our key principle of being able to inspire and develop a future pipeline of cyber security talent in the UK.

CYBERHORIZONS – CAN YOU SUPPORT?

CyberFirst Schools is holding a headline event called CyberHorizons on 25 March in Newport. We are keen to see as many CyberFirst members as possible get involved with this event, which will be attended by 600 Year 10 and Year 12 students from across Wales and Gloucestershire.

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• CyberInsights (Tech style talks on topics picked by the students)
• The Cyber Challenge Zone (Interaction hands on workshops and challenges)
• CyberDash (Quick fire questions to industry experts in small groups)

If you are interested in supporting this event, please get in touch with Madeline (madeline.h@cyberhub.uk).

CYBERUK 2020 will take place at the ICC Wales, Newport on the 19-20th May 2020. Please keep an eye on the website https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/section/cyberuk/overview for registration details.

The annual CyberFirst dinner will be held during CyberUK, on Tuesday 19 May at the Celtic Manor Resort, Newport. Further information will be sent out to all members in due course, but for now please save the date.
We will shortly be sending out online forms for all members to complete, outlining their contribution to CyberFirst during 19/20, and their anticipated level of involvement during 20/21. This information is very important for our CyberFirst planning, and we ask that all members (both industry and public sector) complete it as accurately as possible and by the given deadline.

For our industry members, we operate a tiered membership system, and this is reviewed annually. We use a scoring mechanism to evaluate the contribution you have made to CyberFirst over the previous Financial Year, and combine this with your expected level of involvement over the coming year. This is tallied up into CyberFirst points, and our industry members are then assigned to either the Partner, Associate or Supporter tier.

Around 5% of our industry members at any one time will achieve Partner status. Our CyberFirst Partners attend Industry Advisory Board meetings, and have the first choice of our CyberFirst graduate pool on graduation. Of course, they are also allowed to use the coveted CyberFirst Partner logo and branding.

Many of our most active members will be assigned to the Associate tier. Our Associate members have second choice of our CyberFirst graduate pool on graduation. They attend Industry Advisory Group meetings and can use the CyberFirst Associate logo and branding.

Our less active members and our newest members are usually assigned to the Supporter tier. Our Supporters also attend Industry Advisory Group meetings. They can use our CyberFirst Supporter logo and branding, and have third choice of our CyberFirst graduate pool on graduation.

NCSC / KPMG DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION STUDY

The NCSC and KPMG UK are working together to launch an annual Diversity and Inclusion Survey, which will provide benchmark data to measure performance and inform a series of joint initiatives to make the Cyber Security industry a more diversity-friendly environment.

There is currently a perception that the cyber security industry is not a diverse sector which is not attracting talent from our rich communities in the UK, but we don’t have a baseline to either address or refute this perception. The NCSC is committed to working with industry to transform the cyber security industry into an exemplar of best practice for Diversity and Inclusion.

We would like your help with this survey, and are trying to reach as many people as possible from across the economy, not just those working in government or cyber security companies. It can be completed by anyone who works or has worked in a cyber security role and should only take 10 minutes to complete. It is anonymous so that no individual can be identified from their responses and all data will be carefully handled to ensure data privacy (see data policy). The survey can be accessed via the link below and will be open until March 2020.

https://feedback.kpmgcx.cloud/WebProd/cgi-bin/askiaext.dll?Action=StartSurvey&SurveyName=NCSC_IndividualDiversity&Grp=8mu3fgkb
The dust has only just settled after the weekend, not just because of Storm Ciara but because of the amazing day on Saturday 8 Feb when the Girls Competition semi final round was successfully delivered by our CyberFirst industry members. This was the first year we have included a semi-final element of the competition, and it has been really well received by the girls and the teachers. The semi final took place in 18 locations across the UK – one in each of Scotland, NI and Wales, and multiple regions within England. We are very grateful for the huge amount of support given by CyberFirst members for the competition in writing challenges and providing venues. Particular thanks must go to:

IBM, TESCO, Lloyds, MET Office, USW, Morgan Stanley, Allstate, PWC, Deloitte, QA, Cleeve School & CGI, BT, Energus, HMGCC, GCHQ Scarborough, NATS, UWE

The final is due to take place on 15-16 March, and we are already starting to plan next year’s competition. If you are interested in offering a venue for the semi-final round in 2021 and running the event on behalf of the NCSC then please get in touch with Sian (sian.g@NCSC.gov.uk)

“Today was a great success! We were so privileged to be part of this amazing competition and support the younger generation.” Lloyds Bank

“Thank you so much for running this competition. My daughter really enjoyed the whole experience, doing the original competition in her own time with her friends, going to PWC in Leeds for the semi-final, the venue, the atmosphere, the competitiveness and the sense of achievement. A lot of girls will not have been in a posh corporate office like PWC’s, so that experience was also good.” Parent

“Our girls had a fantastic time on Saturday and came into school this morning full of excitement. Many thanks to all concerned.” The Coopers’ Company and Coborn School

“Just a very quick note to you all to say, firstly, congratulations on what looked a universally great event! From what I saw on social media, every location was buzzing, I know ours was. Secondly, thank you for supporting us on the day and for the opportunity to partner with you on this – I can only imagine how much effort must have gone into this event and you all did yourselves, CyberFirst and the NCSC proud” Morgan Stanley

“Please could you pass on my thanks to everyone who has been involved in running and organising the competition this year. The girls had a fabulous day at the Leeds semi final, I really do appreciate the time, effort and stress which is involved in putting on such a massive day (particularly on such a short timescale). The girls have already been to see me to discuss their Development Day applications and I have had lovely feedback from their parents. Here is a comment from one of them I felt I should share: ‘My daughter really enjoyed it. I was so impressed at how well they did in what is (for her) a relatively new field; she is much more comfortable with programming but really seems to be ‘getting the bug’. “ King Egbert School
It was great to see such a good attendance at the Industry and Academia conference in December 2019, and CyberFirst members taking the opportunity to network and exchange information with members of our higher education community. The talks were all very interesting, and demonstrated the advances that are being made both in attracting the next generation of talented people, and providing them with the necessary knowledge and skills. We would like to thank all of those who made time to attend and contribute to the event, and we look forward to seeing you all at the next one.

CyBOK was developed ‘by the community, for the community’ and as part of the ongoing maintenance and update process the CyBOK team is now welcoming change requests from the community. Further information can be found at: https://www.cybok.org/news/change-requests-now-welcome.

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CyBERFIRST INDUSTRY AND ACADEMIA CONFERENCE 2019, and ACEs-CSE

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