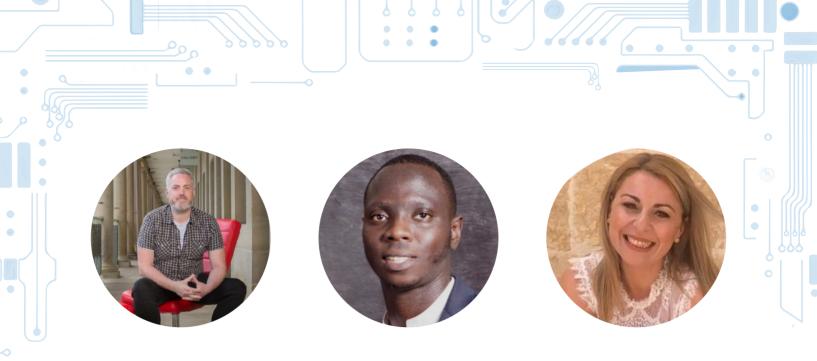


# Student success stories

www.learningpeople.com



# Learning People is helping more people get into the jobs they love

Meet students who can demonstrate what they've already achieved by enrolling on our courses and how they're ready to start, or develop their career in tech.

Our students enrol onto our courses for the purpose of starting, or advancing their career in tech. They've recognised the importance and innovation of the tech industry, and have demonstrated passion and purpose for bridging the skills gap across the industry.

These testimonials prove the hard work they've put in to get where they are today, the challenges they've faced and the results they've achieved.

Learning People - Student success stories



# **Andrew Porritt**

Andrew was working as an operations manager for BT when he came to Learning People in 2019, in pursuit of a new career. After consulting with one of our Code Careers Consultants, Andrew enrolled on a Full Stack Web Development course with Code Institute.

Completing the course in 2019, Andrew quickly realised his dream of changing careers and now works in a development role at an award-winning digital agency, AND Digital.

LOCATION	STUDIED	CURRENT ROLE
Leeds, United Kingdom	Full Stack Web Development, with Code Institute	Associate at AND Digital
	code	<b>AND</b> Digital

*The way I did the course added the most value to my experience with Learning People. I had to absorb a lot of information quickly and it is very much like the job you end up doing. It approximates the work environment you end up in.* 

- Andrew Porritt

### Interview with Andrew...

What was your professional and educational experience prior to studying with Learning People?

## *Completed a Music Tech Diploma years ago. Since then I have been a BT Operations Manager. I managed 4 staff members and dealt with tech issues in the Yorkshire area.*

What were your motivations to study and become certified in your respective area of expertise?

*My wife saw I wasn't happy in my job. I was treading water and felt unchallenged. My wife knew I liked IT and pushed me to make the change.* 

Since becoming certified have you found employment in the industry?

*Yes, I work for AND Digital. I work on a dev team building customer facing products for the company Covea.* 

What are your aspirations for the future?

#### *I want to continue and grow with AND Digital. In the future I'd like Technical Lead.*

What challenges have you faced, and how did Learning People help you overcome them?

### *I had no coding skills at all before starting the course. It taught me the hard-skills that employers need for these roles.*

What advice would you give to someone thinking of starting a course in Full Stack Web Development?

*Constant of the support of the supp* 



# Eric Mordi

Eric had no previous experience working in any type of tech space, and found it difficult to figure out the best way to get into development before enrolling with Learning People.

After consulting with Stuart from our code team, he enrolled and completed Code Institute's Full Stack Web Development course with flying colours.

Eric is now really happy to be working as a Junior Front End Developer for Avast, one of the biggest cyber security companies in the world.

#### LOCATION

#### STUDIED

#### **CURRENT ROLE**

Croydon, United Kingdom



Full Stack Web Development, with Code Institute

Front end developer at Avast software





I found it very difficult to figure out the best way to get into development - Learning People clarified this for me. I had no experience with regards to working in any type of tech space before Learning People - I am now a Junior Front End Developer working for one of the biggest cyber security tech companies in the world (Avast).

- Eric Mordi

### Interview with Eric...

What was your professional and educational experience prior to studying with Learning People?

I had no experience with regards to working in any type of tech space before Learning People and as far as actual software development is concerned I had completed a very basic foundation course in computing prior but nowhere near as informative or relatable to actual coding practices used in a working environment.

What were your motivations to study and become certified in your respective area of expertise?

66 My main motivation is always to be the best version of myself and to learn a skill that I know is highly sought after but also within my capacity to grasp and become an expert in.

Since becoming certified have you found employment in the industry?

Yes, I am now a Junior Front End Developer working for one of the biggest cyber security tech companies in the world (Avast). My main job role is maintenance of the main CCleaner website.



# **Stephen Pryor**

Stephen was a Finance Director with a Bachelors in Accounting when he found Learning People in 2018, looking for a course to validate his previous experience in project management.

He then enrolled onto a Project Management Professional course with the Project Management Institute, after speaking to his Career Consultant.

Stephen is now applying his project management skills to a new role within Pagazzi Lighting, one of Glasgow's premier specialist lighting businesses.



*Learning People have great resources that left me feeling well prepared and very confident for my exams. It takes determination, but if you put the time in and apply yourself you will do well.* 

- Stephen Pryor

### Interview with Stephen...

What was your professional and educational experience prior to studying with Learning People?

### *I have a Bachelor Degree in Accounting, and was a finance director and certified accountant.*

What were your motivations to study and become certified in your respective area of expertise?

### *I wanted further development, progression and wanted to validate my 3 years of previous experience within project management.*

Since becoming certified have you found employment in the industry?

### *Yes, I work as a Finance Director with Pagazzi Lighting, which has a very strong element of project management within it.*

What are your aspirations for the future?

#### *I would like to seek further progression within project management.*

What challenges have you faced, and how did Learning People help you overcome them?

**Getting the training and mock exams done in time for the real exams, however with help from Learning People this was possible.** 



# John Wakabikwa

John had a Bachelor degree in Engineering, but wanted more career development and progression, which led him to Learning People in 2017.

After speaking with one of our Project Management Career Consultants he enrolled onto a course with the Project Management Institute.

John is now working as a Senior Project Manager working for a global company across rail, oil & gas, power utilities and nuclear management.

LOCATION	STUDIED	CURRENT ROLE
United Kingdom	PMP with the Project Management institute	Senior Project Manager
	Project Management Institute	

*I could not have passed both my PMP and ACP modules without the help of Learning People's well structured courses and effective delivery.* 

- John Wakabikwa

### Interview with John...

What was your professional and educational experience prior to studying with Learning People?

#### *I have a Bachelors of Engineering in Electrical & Electronic.*

What were your motivations to study and become certified in your respective area of expertise?

#### *I was looking for career development and progression within project management.*

Since becoming certified have you found employment in the industry?

Ves, I am now working as a Senior Project Manager working for a global company across rail, oil & gas, power utilities and nuclear management.

What are your aspirations for the future?

*Career advancement into more project management roles and corporate.* 

What challenges have you faced, and how did Learning People help you overcome them?

66 The challenges include managing programs and portfolios of projects delivering different products, with a wide range of risk and opportunity management balancing.



## **Heather Olcot**

Heather had worked in IT support for 7 years when she came to Learning People in 2018, looking for a career with more opportunities in it.

After speaking to one of our Code Career Consultants, she enrolled onto the Full Stack Developer course with Code Institute.

Heather now works for award-winning cloud recruitment software company, Smart Recruit Online, taking care of their software and fixing any bugs that arise.

#### LOCATION

Milton Keynes,

United Kingdom

#### STUDIED

Full Stack Developer with Code Institute Web Developer at Smart Recruit Online

**CURRENT ROLE** 



code



Some people who ask me how much it costs say it's too expensive. But what I say to those people is that you need to invest in a professional skillset and I made that money back in the first four months of my job.

- Heather Olcot

### Interview with Heather...

What was your professional and educational experience prior to studying with Learning People?

*I have a BTEC National Diploma in IT. I then worked in IT support for seven years. Then had 6 years as a full time mother.* 

What were your motivations to study and become certified in your respective area of expertise?

I wanted a career that I enjoyed and had a lot of opportunities. I also wanted something flexible enough to work around my family in the future, whether that be office-based or remote working.

Since becoming certified have you found employment in the industry?

*Ves, I am now working as a Web Developer at Smart Recruit Online, I take care of the software and fix any bugs that arise.* 

What are your aspirations for the future?

*I want to move into a full-stack role because I love Python. I do want to further consider remote-work.* 

What challenges have you faced, and how did Learning People help you overcome them?

*Constant of the industry works, how it operates and what is necessary to get work. I had no idea before I spoke to Stuart.* 



# **Jade Brennan**

Jade had a national diploma in software development when she came to Learning People, hoping to move into a career in project management, as she had a passion for leading and following projects.

After consulting with Martin from our project management team, she enrolled onto the PMI PMP collection with the Project Management Institute.

Jade now works as a Project Manager for a Construction Consultancy.

LOCATION	STUDIED	CURRENT ROLE
United Kingdom	PMP with the Project Management Institute	Project Manager for a construction consultancy
	Project Management Institute	

*I really liked the flexibility of studying online, with the great help and support from Learning People.* 

- Jade Brennan

### Interview with Jade...

What was your professional and educational experience prior to studying with Learning People?

#### *I have a Degree in History and Politics.*

What were your motivations to study and become certified in your respective area of expertise?

#### *I was looking for a career change.*

Since becoming certified have you found employment in the industry?

#### *Ves, I am now working as a project manager for a construction consultancy.*

What are your aspirations for the future?

#### *G* To become a chartered project manager.

What challenges have you faced, and how did Learning People help you overcome them?

### *I struggled to apply myself to put time aside to study, which Learning People helped me with.*



# **Robin Zigmond**

Robin worked as a production planner when he found Learning People, looking for career growth and was worried his age and inexperience was a barrier to his dream of working in the coding industry.

After speaking to one of our Code Career Consultants, he realised pursuing his ideal role was a very possible goal, and decided to enrol onto the Full Stack Developer course with Code Institute.

Robin now works as a web developer for Thrive - a digital growth agency, building and maintaining websites for clients.

LOCATION	STUDIED	CURRENT ROLE
United Kingdom	PMP with the Project Management Institute	Developer at Thrive
	Project Management Institute	36

Once you are in work, it becomes much easier to find more opportunities. In my first job, I regularly get 3 or 4 recruiters contacting me a week. The interest is definitely there. Also, one concern I had before doing the course is whether I would a bit lonely doing the course remotely. But I found the best thing is the Slack group community and I have made several friends.

- Robin Zigmond

### Interview with Robin...

What was your professional and educational experience prior to studying with Learning People?

# *Completed a Maths Degree in 2005 and a Maths PhD in 2010. I struggled to find work as the skills weren't specific to any jobs I could find. I then got a job as a production planner.*

What were your motivations to study and become certified in your respective area of expertise?

I knew I had to leave my job. There was no growth and no other jobs I could find that were suitable. I didn't enjoy it. I knew a little bit about coding from my teenage years, and a few people said they thought I would be good at it.

Since becoming certified have you found employment in the industry?

*Yes, I am a developer for Thrive-Digital Growth Agency. My job is to build websites for clients, and maintain sites for existing clients.* 

What are your aspirations for the future?

*I want to be a well-respected, well-paid developer who continues to enjoy my job.* 

# learning people

CAREER READY EDUCATION

### Locations

Ireland (HQ): Learning People (IRE) Ltd, 8-9 Westmoreland St, Dublin 2, Ireland

**United Kingdom:** Learning People, The Agora, Ellen Street, Brighton, BN3 3LN

Australia: Learning People, Bondi Junction, Sydney, NSW, 2022

New Zealand: Learning People, Level 3, 151 Cambridge Terrace, Christchurch Central, 8013

### Contact our expert career consultants



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### **Connect with us**



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