

# CyberFirst

CyberFirst - what it is, who it is for and how to get involved.

## What is CyberFirst and who is it for?

Launched in May 2016, and inspired and led by the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC), a part of GCHQ, CyberFirst began as a programme of opportunities helping young people explore their passion for tech by introducing them to the world of cyber security.

CyberFirst covers a broad range of activities: comprehensive undergraduate bursary and apprenticeship schemes; a girls only competition and a series of summer and autumn development courses either online or at UK universities and colleges plus our latest addition [CyberFirst Schools/Colleges](#).

Each initiative is designed to seek out people and schools with potential, offering the support, skills, experience and exposure needed to be the future first line of defence in a CyberFirst world.

To ensure we continue to improve the CyberFirst offering we are keen to work with industry to help us develop the next generation of cyber security experts.

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## How to get involved

Organisations, from both industry and government sectors, can get involved in a number of ways:

### **CyberFirst Programme activities:**

- Providing 8-week Summer and/or Year In Industry placements for our CyberFirst Bursary students – all fully funded by the NCSC
- Offering fulltime roles for CyberFirst Bursary students upon graduation
- Speaking at a CyberFirst course(s)
- Running your own CyberFirst course
- Providing sponsorship for CyberFirst courses and events

- Developing cyber security content / challenges for schools

### **CyberFirst Schools Activities:**

- providing Inspirational cyber and technology events for students in school
- providing cyber and technology career events for school and college students
- providing school students with mentoring opportunities
- After school computing, technology and cyber club support
- Student technology and cyber work placements
- Delivering multi-school cyber security events and activities
- Helping to develop and deliver cyber security teaching content

If this is something that is of interest to your organisation please contact [NCSC enquiries](#) so we may arrange a call or briefing for you.

Individuals can get involved by downloading and passing on the brochure found on this page. Further information can also be found [in the CyberFirst section of the NCSC website](#).

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## **CyberFirst Girls competition**

The NCSC are working hard to get more girls interested in a career in cyber security. The CyberFirst Girls Competition provides a fun but challenging environment to inspire the next generation of young women to consider a career

in cyber security. The competition is a team event, with each one made up of 4 female students from Year 8 in England, Wales, year 9 (NI) and S2 in Scotland.

Learn more about the [CyberFirst Girls Competition](#)

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## CyberFirst Courses

The NCSC provide short courses designed to introduce the younger generation to the world of cyber security. These courses are called Trailblazers, Adventurers, Defenders, Futures and Advanced, open to 11-17 year olds.

Find out more about [CyberFirst Courses](#).

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## CyberFirst Bursaries & Apprenticeships

CyberFirst offers students a real choice after A Levels or whilst at University.

- A CyberFirst Bursary offers undergraduates £4,000 per year financial assistance and paid cyber security work experience to help kick start their career in cyber
- A CyberFirst Degree Apprenticeship allows undergraduates to earn whilst they learn, ready for a job with GCHQ

Learn more about the [bursaries and degree apprenticeships](#) on offer.

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## CyberFirst Schools/Colleges

The NCSC aims to recognise those schools whose approach to cyber and cyber security education is excellent.

Schools that achieve this recognition can expect to be:

- formally recognised and promoted by the National cyber Security Centre
- provided with opportunities to engage with local and national companies seeking to invest time, expertise and resources in schools
- provided with opportunities to engage with Universities seeking to invest time, expertise and resources in local schools
- a focal point for other [CyberFirst activities](#)
- provided with an opportunity to be a part of [CISSE UK](#)

Learn more about [CyberFirst Schools/Colleges](#).

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