



James Nixon

CURRENT ADDRESS

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For up to date Portfolio Please contact me

EDUCATION

In Progress: Hoping for 2:1 or Higher

University of West England: BSC Product Design Technology Degree

Knutsford Academy, Knutsford, Cheshire:

A level's:

Mathematics	C
Design	A
Geography	B

GCSE's:

Mathematics	7	Art and Design (Graphic Communication)	6
English Literature	6	Art and Design (Three-Dimensional Design)	6
English Language	6	Geography	6
Combined Science	7	7	

Duke of Edinburgh: Bronze and Silver. In the process of Gold

ABOUT ME

My name is James Nixon, I am 23 years old. I have completed my second year studying a BSc in Product Design at the University of West England. I am completing my final year and looking for experience in Product Design. Throughout my life I have taken and created many opportunities that have allowed me to achieve and gain product design experience.

During my three years of University, I worked on a variety of projects. In my first year I was tasked to model a cantilever bridge out of cardboard, that would have the highest possible strength to weight ratio. This required prototyping, iteration, testing and continuous improvement to create the best structure possible. The project was part of a competition and out of our year, I achieved first place.



ABOUT ME

Another brief was to produce a wooden squash ball launcher that had to hit a target, could not reload the launcher, and it had to use a bungee cord to launch the ball. For this project I was working as part of a group, we hand drew ideas, CAD modeled using Solidworks and created a launcher. As part of the design process, we experimented with different materials for different components. We tested 3D printing, woodworking, laser cutting and foam modelling as well as using nuts and bolts to hold the structure together. The final product wasn't as we hoped as it failed to hit the target accurately however.

In my final year, my major project was to design a smart wearable knee rehabilitation brace for post-ACL surgery recovery. Having gone through ACL surgery myself, I researched the rehabilitation process in depth, consulted a physiotherapist and mapped out the key recovery needs of the user. I designed the electronics housing in Rhino and built a working prototype integrating motorised compression and thermal therapy controlled by custom Arduino firmware. From this I created O.N.Y.X., a device that delivers adaptive compression and temperature-controlled therapy to the knee during recovery.

During the recent lockdowns, I worked with a client on an architectural restoration project and created a CAD version of the inside of King's College Church Organ. The CAD models I developed using SketchUp were used in a TV documentary to demonstrate the internal workings of the Organ. I developed techniques to construct accurate valves and piping to scale. Building a strong client relationship through two-way communication enabled me to deliver a brief that exceeded their expectations, leading to commendations from the client. My mathematical, physics and logical thinking skills were essential to this project, demonstrating my high-level problem-solving skills and engineering abilities, crucial to successful product design.

In my desire for relevant work experience I approached TT Games, a subsidiary of Warner Brothers, directly leading to me being accepted as one of their first work experience placement. During the placement, I gained valuable insight into the use of CAD at a professional level in a work environment. I was taught skills in different CAD software packages and the process of how a concept is transformed into reality by designing a new character for their gaming platform.

I have been involved in scouting from the age of 6 (currently in network) and have achieved my Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award, the Chief Scout Platinum Award, participated in numerous scouting camps and engaged in practical design challenges from treehouse and raft building to back-to-basics cooking. In addition, this has developed my teamwork and communication skills. As a young leader at Kandersteg International Scout Camp in Switzerland, I met scouts from across the world and participated in many team building activities. This and my trip to New York to research designers and architects were funded through part-time jobs (Paperboy, Babysitting, Football Events, Gymnastics Equipment Assembly) and fundraising events I ran, demonstrating my willingness to accept and succeed in positions of responsibility.



EXPERIENCES

October 2023 - Current

Cocktail Bartender • Lost & Found • Knutsford, Cheshire

July 2024

Cocktail Bartender • Britfest • , Cheshire

A weekend of making cocktails and draught beer for thousands of people

July 2023

Barista • RHS Tatton Flower Show • Knutsford, Cheshire

A week of making coffee and tea in a van for hundreds of people

April 2022 – October 2023

Bar Support • Dirty Martini • Bristol and Manchester

Stocking, cleaning, sorting and supporting the bartenders at the bar.

Key Responsibilities:

- Constantly monitoring the bar making sure it is always stocked.
- Glass washing all the glasses that are used.
- Making sure the stock and bar are always tidy.
- Sorting the bar to make it run efficiently.
- Making sure the bartenders have what they need to do their job.

Key Achievements:

- Successfully and efficiently supporting a bar of 7 bartenders in a large venue.

Sep 2019 – Jan 2022

Playworker • Egerton Primary School • Knutsford, Cheshire

Looking after and entertaining children at an after-school club.



EXPERIENCES

Mar 2017 – Sep 2020

Football Coach • Egerton Football Club • Knutsford, Cheshire

Coaching children aged 4 to 6 football skills.

Key Responsibilities:

- Teaching children aged 4 to 6 with accurate and professional football skills.
- Creating and coaching football session for groups of 30+ children
- Providing children, a fun and educated approach to football.

Key Achievements:

- Successfully teaching a child with down syndrome football skills and helped them to enjoy football.
- Running football sessions during covid safely and efficiently.
- Winning multiple league cups and titles.