



Job Description

Post/Job Title:	Principal Data Interface Developer
Ref:	POSN108520
Location including building:	University wide (Lansdowne Campus/Talbot Campus)
Faculty/Support Service:	IT Services
Group/Section:	Technology Group
Normal hours per week:	Full Time
Grade:	Grade 7
Accountable to:	Data Interface Specialist
Responsible for or supervises:	Data Interface Team: Developers (G5) / Senior Developers (G6)
Special conditions:	You may be required to be on-call on a pre-arranged rota basis, but no more frequently than one week in four.

Job Purpose

As a Principal Data Interface Developer working within the IT Digital and Business Solutions Team, under the lead of the Data Interface Specialist, the post holder will help lead the strategy, design, implementation and operation of BU's Hybrid Integration Platform.

Main Responsibilities

1. Adhering to the IT Integration Strategy and BU Data Exchange Principles, help lead the design, implementation, and provision of the BU Hybrid Integration Platform (HIP) service to maximise secure data reuse.
2. In collaboration with the Data Interface Specialist, inform, review, and shape the IT Integration Strategy and BU Data Exchange Principles.
3. Lead the technical design of data integration solutions, translating logical models into development specifications, and gaining quality assurance agreement with peers, clients, IT architects and other specialists.
4. Analyse and evaluate possible solution options to produce a recommendation, together with detailed and realistic work estimates.
5. Advise and inform on the University's data integration strategy, building high quality services to enable efficient, timely and secure data exchanges between enterprise applications
6. Provide systems analysis, design, and development capabilities to build data integration services within BU's enterprise-wide Hybrid Integration Platform (HIP)
7. Review and improve data integration architecture to improve stability, scalability, performance, and ease of development
8. Design, deliver, maintain, monitor, and support data integration services operating within the Hybrid Integration Platform

9. Ensure adequate service coverage is maintained, providing a service that meets or exceeds required Service Level Agreements (SLAs).
10. Contribute to systems analysis and design best practice for BU
11. Develop approved solutions, including data integrations, validation, audit, reporting and monitoring.
12. Determine testing requirements and test approach, and complete testing of integration developments. Liaise with the IT Test Team to plan UAT.
13. Manage integration developments within the team, including collaborating across teams and with project managers, to meet timescales, quality metrics, service levels, budgets, and resources
14. Deploy new and amended data integration services carefully and accurately, to minimise service degradation. Evaluate existing deployment mechanisms and improve where possible.
15. Manage the response to Incidents and Problems affecting data integration services, including evaluation, estimation, development, testing and implementation, ensuring the service provided meets or exceeds required Service Level Agreements (SLAs). Proactively evaluate, improve, and simplify support tasks.
16. Contribute to all aspects of a development delivery, including business case development, estimating, establishing/agreeing requirements, planning, risk/issue management, communications, test management, client engagement, and service transition.
17. Identify and assess risks and issues, communicating these to appropriate technical and project managers.
18. Maintain and grow specialist knowledge of technologies, integration principles, tools, and integration services, including but not limited to Azure Logic Apps, Azure Functions, Azure Service Bus, Web Services and API's, SSIS, JSON, XML, XSD, XSLT and SQL. Identify and promote how these technologies might benefit the Team and project delivery.
19. Proactively review and evaluate emerging technologies within the fields of data interfacing and integration. Identify improvements to existing data integrations, design patterns and development processes.
20. Provide support, coaching and mentoring for other members of the Data Interfaces Team.
21. Build active networks with peers across the University and the HE sector, and with consultants/suppliers. Represent the University in relevant user groups and professional bodies.
22. Maintain a current knowledge of legislation appropriate to information systems, such as data protection and computer misuse, and ensure that systems design and development incorporates required policy and approach.
23. Maintain a personal and professional development plan as agreed with the line manager.
24. Deputise for the Data Interface Specialist as required.
25. Familiarise yourself with, understand and follow the Principles, Policies, Processes, and Procedures of IT Services and the university. Be empowered to highlight non-compliance when identified.
26. Ensure that information and cyber security review and remediation is embedded within all IT work delivered to ensure that the university is protected against the ever-evolving cyber threat landscape.
27. Make excellent service experience the key component for all services, ensuring that the IT team are viewed as a trusted member of the university community.

IT Services Dimensions

- Over 100 people in IT Services, including established staff, those on fixed term contracts, and contractors.
- Overall ITS budget of approx. £15m per annum
- 40+ projects running at one time
- Supporting 4000+ staff and 20,000+ students
- 4,500 computers
- Over 500 servers

- 1000+ applications

Contacts Internal and external, including level

Internal:

- Colleagues at all levels within the organisation, up to and including members of UET

External:

- Students
- Customers
- HE Sector colleagues
- Suppliers

Challenges

- Delivering excellent service with finite resources
- Ongoing process and service excellence review
- Managing and leading the work of others, where there is no line management responsibility, to achieve service delivery objectives

Information Governance Responsibilities

Data User

- i. Comply with the associated data protection, information security, information management and information technology regulations, policies, processes and procedures.

Safeguarding and Regulated Activity

If the role involves engaging in regulated activity relevant to vulnerable groups including children and disabled adults, it is an offence to apply for and perform the role, if a person is barred from engaging in regulated activity. Further information is available in BU's Safeguarding Policy and Suitability Statement on the Recruitment and Employment of Ex-offenders.

Additional Information

When on-call, staff must:-

- be expected to be within one hour travel time of the University
- be fit and available for work at all times.
- Be available for contact at all times and mindful of areas where mobile reception is poor

BU is an equal opportunities employer which values a diverse workforce. The post holder must at all times carry out their responsibilities with due regard to the University's Dignity, Diversity and Equality Policy Statement.

Our highly skilled and creative workforce is comprised of individuals drawn from a broad cross section of the globe, and who reflect a variety of backgrounds, talents, perspectives and experiences to build our global learning community. Through fused activity, the post holder must have an understanding of and commitment to promoting a global outlook.

All employees have an obligation to be aware of the University's Sustainability Policy, Climate and Ecological Crisis Action Plan, Travel Plan and associated documents, and to ensure that they carry out their day-to-day activities in an environmentally responsible manner and inspire students to do the same.

January 2025

Person Specification

Post / Job Title: Principal Data Interface Developer	Post No: POSN108520
Faculty / Professional Service: IT Services	Date: November 2024
	Essential / Desirable
Knowledge (including experience and qualifications)	
Substantial experience of analysis, design, development, testing, implementation, and support of data integration services	Essential
Substantial experience of software development and unit testing including application lifecycle management tools and techniques	Essential
Considerable knowledge of data interchange formats and related technologies including JSON, XML, XSLT and XSD	Essential
Considerable knowledge of relational databases and database development using MS SQL Server or an equivalent enterprise DB	Essential
Considerable experience developing applications that consume API's and web-services	Essential
Considerable experience of the C# code language and Object Orientated Programming	Essential
Practical experience of IPaaS technologies such as Azure Logic Apps and Functions	Essential
Considerable experience of development tools such as Visual Studio, SQL Management Studio, Team Foundation Server, and Azure DevOps	Essential
Knowledge of relevant legislation concerning data use and security and the practical implication of legislation on data use and system design	Essential
Knowledge and understanding of data integration patterns and data management	Essential
Experience of operating, extending, and administering a commercial Enterprise Service Bus (ESB) system	Essential
Experience of PowerShell or other scripting language	Essential
Degree, equivalent qualification, or demonstrable, comparable, capability in a relevant subject area.	Essential
Understanding of IT Service provision in medium to large organisations	Essential
Experience of developing reports using tools such as SSRS, Business Objects, or equivalent	Desirable
Knowledge of PRINCE2 or other formal project management and ITIL Service Management methodology	Desirable
Awareness and understanding of the activities and developments within Higher Education and/or public sector	Desirable
Knowledge of emerging technologies relevant to protection of operational infrastructure	Desirable
Hold, or have held, technical accreditations, in one or more application focused disciplines.	Desirable
Skills	
Excellent IT skills, including Microsoft Office suite and Microsoft 365	Essential
Excellent interpersonal skills including motivational negotiating, influencing and relationship building (including at a senior level)	Essential
Ability to support and mentor other members of the team, and occasionally deputise for the Data Interface Specialist	Essential
Identify, analyse and address problems in order to resolve issues whenever possible in a way that minimises the negative impact on the organisation	Essential
Strong analytical skills; ability to evaluate complex issues often with incomplete information	Essential
Demonstrable ability to be part of and inspire multi-skilled teams	Essential
Demonstrate excellent verbal and written communication skills, across all levels	Essential
Demonstrable ability to handle a range of activities to tight and varied timescales	Essential
Demonstrable ability to engage and collaborate with staff at a business and technical level	Essential
Project/Change Management experience/skills	Essential
Operational planning, management and business process skills	Essential
Ability to translate vision into effective, strategic technical solutions	Essential
Attributes	
Empathetic	Essential
Collaborative	Essential
Attention to detail	Essential
Customer-centric approach	Essential
Innovative	Essential