

# Angus McGowan

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## Summary

Aspiring technical professional with strong fundamentals in cybersecurity, system design, and backend development. Achieved a First-Class BSc (Hons) in Computer Science, combining academic excellence with practical, hands-on experience in API security, Linux administration, and cloud technologies. Experienced in developing and deploying secure RESTful APIs, managing Docker environments, and applying best practices in authentication and data protection.

Driven by curiosity and a passion for problem-solving, I enjoy building systems that are both secure and scalable. My background reflects a balance of technical depth and adaptability, whether it's hardening backend infrastructure, designing efficient system architectures, or exploring new technologies to improve performance and security. I'm continuously learning and motivated to contribute to projects that make a real-world impact.

## Work Experience

### Courily ERP-Backend Developer (April 2025 - Present)

- Developed backend services in .NET Core for greenfield ERP commercial kitchen software.
- Leveraged modern technologies such as Docker, AWS, SQL and document databases for development and deployment of the main Courily service.
- Ensured system security through robust OAuth implementation. I am particularly proud of this feature as I was wholly responsible for its delivery from development through to deployment.
- Actively participated in and contributed to agile rituals, ensuring a smooth steady sprint cadence.

### Tyrone and Fermanagh Art Club Owner-Operator (September 2022 - Present)

- Founded and managed a children's art education business, delivering engaging and educational art sessions.
- Developed and implemented lesson plans tailored to various age groups, fostering creativity and artistic skills. Managed business operations, including marketing, client communication, and scheduling.
- Ensured a safe and supportive environment for children to explore their creativity.

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## Education and Certifications

**The Open University, UK**, First Class BSc Honours Degree in Computer Science (2024 - 2025)

**The Open University, UK**, Foundation Degree in Cybersecurity (2022 - 2024)

**Brighton University, West Sussex, England** Fine Art Print Making (2017 - 2019; studies postponed due to illness)

**University for the Creative Arts (UCA)**, Epsom, Surrey  
Foundation Course in Fine Art (2016 – 2017)

**Sullivan Upper School, Holywood, Co. Down**, A-Levels in  
Art, Economics, and Computer Science

**Portora Royal School, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh**,  
Northern Ireland 11 GCSEs A\*-C, including Art (A), Science  
(A, B), and Mathematics (B)

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## Projects and Technical Experience

### ***Securing REST APIs; Dissertation Project:***

A research project identifying and mitigating vulnerabilities in REST APIs.

- Exploring current security challenges and risks in API design.
- Developing secure API solutions using best practices and modern frameworks.
- Designed and implemented a secure REST API prototype in Node.js, containerized with Docker, deployed on private cloud infrastructure, and validated using Postman.

### ***Data Management System for County (Fermanagh) Show:***

I led a team in developing a comprehensive software solution, using Kanban boards for workflow management and drawing inspiration from Agile methodologies.

The solution featured:

- ***Frontend:*** A jQuery-based application hosted on IIS.
- ***Back end:*** SQL database with a robust data access layer.
- Delivered a user-friendly and efficient system for managing event entries

### ***Linux System Configuration and Customisation:***

Gained extensive experience in:

- Programming and customizing Linux desktop applications.
- Administering servers with Bash scripting and C programming.
- Participating in Capture the Flag (CTF) challenges, enhancing skills in Linux file systems and cybersecurity.

### ***Raspberry Pi Home Server with Docker:***

Created a home server on a Raspberry Pi, hosting applications such as network-attached storage (NAS) and file-sharing services using Docker containers.

### ***Experience with virtual machines:***

Managed and utilised virtual machines for various applications, including Docker systems, Kali Linux, and Windows Server (IIS). Additional experience with AWS volumes.

### ***Home Lab Network***

Designed and implemented an extensive home lab and network. Features implemented include:

- Mesh Networking for improved connectivity.
  - Network monitoring tools integrated such as Zabbix to track and Manage performance.
  - Remote access to home server and main PC clients within the network, with a DMZ for secure outside connections.
  - Network wide file sharing and storage.
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## Technical Skills

### **Hard skills**

- Programming: Node.js, Python, Bash, C, C#
- API Development and Security
- Containerization: Docker
- Orchestration: Kubernetes
- Virtual Machines and Cloud Services
- Linux Administration and Customization
- SQL Database Management
- Frontend Development: jQuery, IIS
- Scripting and Automation: Windows Scripting, Bash and Python scripting

### **Soft skills**

- Strong problem-solving and analytical thinking
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Adaptability to new technologies and workflows
- Team collaboration and leadership
- Attention to detail and organisational skills
- Customer-focused approach with a professional demeanour