Jacob Bellamy

Level 3 Networking and Cyber Security Student

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In my bedroom stands a Dell PowerEdge R720xd shouldering 10 virtual machines.

Understanding how things work has been the foremost obsession of mine since I was a child. Cyber security has always held my interest and has proved to provide the greatest satisfaction with the greatest potential for depth. I study Networking and Cyber Security at Level 3 alongside The Chartered Institute of Information Security's Extended Project Qualification at Berkeley Green UTC, and was selected for the NCSC CyberFirst Advanced course at UWE Bristol in 2026. I run and maintain my own home lab on a Dell PowerEdge server to practise penetration testing, to emulate known exploits and vulnerabilities, and to build general software and Linux experience. I enjoy reading around the subject alongside novels, and I keep up to date with how recent and past attacks were carried out through books, write-ups, documentaries and walkthroughs. Alongside this I work as a pool lifeguard, instruct lifesaving and design and build robots for a FIRST Robotics team.

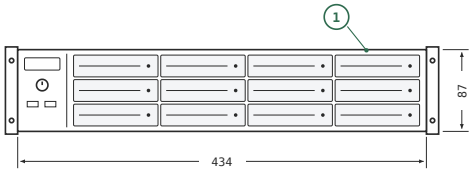


Fig. 1 Home lab server, front view

Experience

Lifeguard / Recreation Assistant (Pool), *Fusion Lifestyle, Wells Sport and Fitness* Sep 2026 – Present

- Watch over and instruct swimmers and maintain pool safety, ready to respond to incidents and emergencies and giving the best care and attention I can.
- Help run the pool day to day, from customer service and creating a safe and welcoming environment to equipment set-up, cleaning and regular checks, so all site users have the best experience possible.

Lifesaving Instructor (Volunteer), *Sedgemoor Life Saving Club* 2026 – Present

- Plan and run my own group, teaching lifesaving, rescues and fitness, and help assess people working towards their awards.

IT Manager's Assistant (Work Experience), *R Tincknell & Son Ltd* Jun 2024

- Assisted the IT manager in installing and extending a CCTV system with NVRs and cameras, wiring T568B cables to each.
- Assisted in building a NAS to allow staff access to their files from anywhere.

Volunteer Assistant Instructor, *Tigers Taekwondo* Nov 2022 – Nov 2024

- Helped teach Taekwondo to children aged 4 to 8 for two years, leading warm-ups and drills and keeping the class safe and focused.

Competition

FIRST Robotics Competition (RTX), *CAD design, mechanical build and drive team* 2025 – Present

- Designed the whole robot in CAD, modelling parts from official dimensions and motor and part models; built the chassis and sorting mechanism, and helped with wiring, some programming and match strategy.
- When the sorter snapped mid-match, I measured the broken parts and redrew the design on the spot, as the original model was part of a larger print file and there was no internet access to retrieve it. I then worked with students from the host school to laser cut a new reinforced part and fitted it before the next round, even though they were on another team competing against us.

Projects

Home Lab Server Ongoing

Dell PowerEdge R720xd (2x Xeon E5-2690, 256 GB ECC RAM, RTX 3060 Ti) running Rocky Linux. Hosts multiple virtual machines, mainly Windows, to recreate a real environment for penetration testing, mainly reproducing exploits on vulnerable versions of programs and operating systems to work through the process in real time, gain experience and satisfy my curiosity.

Home Network Security Ongoing

Configured a remote-access VPN and Pi-hole with DNS filtering. Currently planning a full redesign of my home network and security system, covering device and layout mapping, hardware selection and specific security needs, with an integrated CCTV system.

Self-Hosted Mail Server Complete

Set up a local intranet mail server using iRedMail on Rocky Linux to provide an internal mail service.

Controller Protocol Converter Complete

An input converter from XInput (Xbox controller) to the proprietary PS3 DualShock 3 input, using a Raspberry Pi in the middle to translate the signal in real time.

Skills

Security testing	penetration testing (lab), vulnerability research, exploit reproduction, OSINT, CTF challenges, phishing analysis, CVE tracking, firewall configuration
Security tools	Kali Linux, Nmap, Wireshark, Metasploit, Hashcat, John the Ripper, TryHackMe, Hack The Box
Networking	TCP/IP, subnetting, VLANs, router and switch configuration, DHCP, DNS, Wi-Fi design, VPN, Pi-hole, Cisco Packet Tracer, T568B cabling, CCTV/NVR, troubleshooting
Operating systems	Rocky Linux, Ubuntu, Debian, Windows 10/11, Windows Server, Active Directory, TrueNAS
Infrastructure	virtualisation (VirtualBox, VMware), Docker, SSH, NAS, VPS, iRedMail, Nginx, domain and DNS management
Development	Python, Bash, Git/GitHub, VS Code, HTML/CSS
Professional	project management (Agile, PRINCE2), technical documentation, first aid and CPR, Computer Misuse Act, UK GDPR

Education

Berkeley Green UTC 2025 – 2027

Level 3 Networking and Cyber Security, CIISec Cyber EPQ, A Level Computer Science (OCR), A Level Mathematics (Edexcel)

NCSC CyberFirst Advanced 2026

UWE Bristol (place earned by written application)

GCSEs 2025

Maths (Higher) 7, Technology 7, English Literature 6, Biology 6, Physics 6, Geography 6, English Language 5, Chemistry 5, Computer Science 5, ICT Media (L2) Distinction

Courses and training

Cisco Networking Academy: Introduction to Cybersecurity	Nov 2026
Anthropic: Claude Code 101	Nov 2026
DCSA (US Department of Defense): Risk Management Framework, Cybersecurity Awareness, Counterintelligence Awareness	Nov 2026
CISA: ICS Cybersecurity (300)	In progress
CompTIA Security+ (V8)	Studying

Awards and qualifications

RLSS UK National Lifesaving Academy, Distinction	Apr 2026
RLSS UK Lifesaving Academy Instructor	Feb 2026
CPR and First Aid (RLSS UK)	Jun 2026
National Pool Lifeguard Qualification (NPLQ)	Nov 2025
RLSS UK Bronze Medallion (Pool)	Mar 2025
RLSS UK Bronze Star, Beach	Aug 2024
RLSS UK Bronze Star, Pool	Dec 2023
Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award	Oct 2024
Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award	Oct 2023
Chief Scout's Gold Award	Nov 2023
Ten Tors, Dartmoor (35 miles), completed twice	2023, 2024

References available on request.