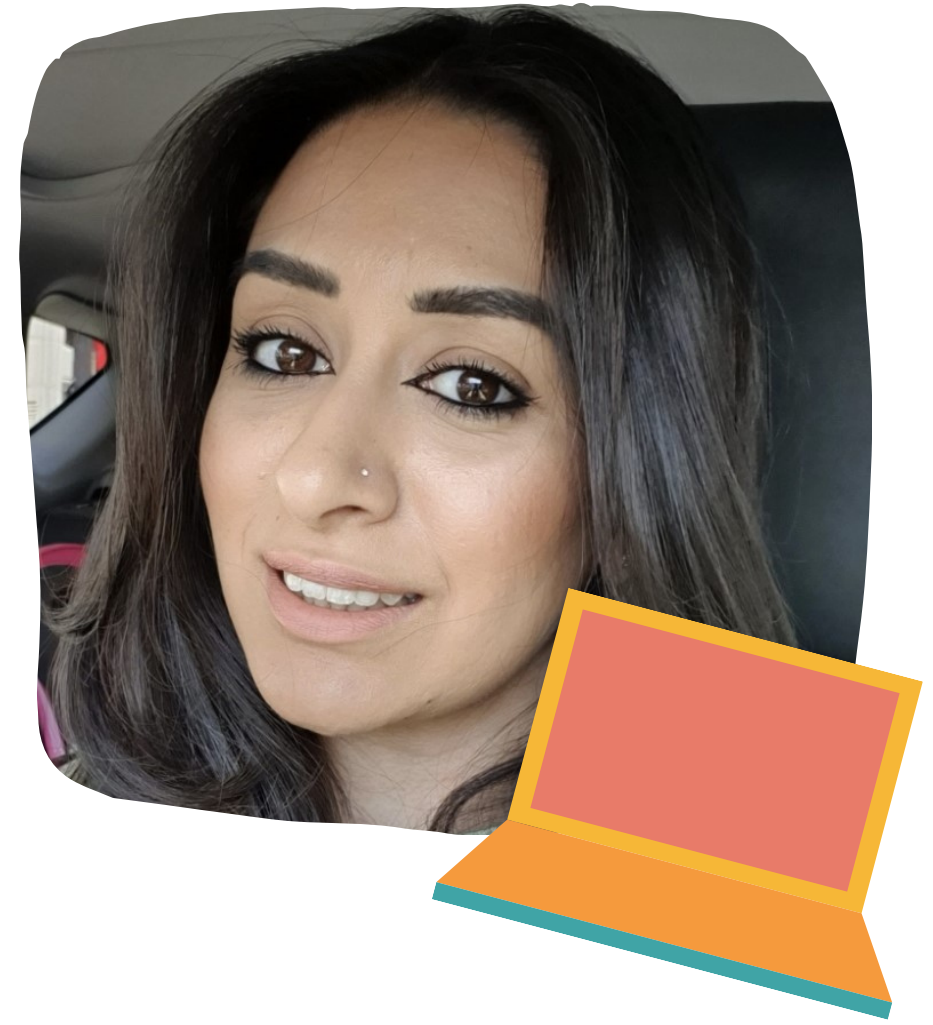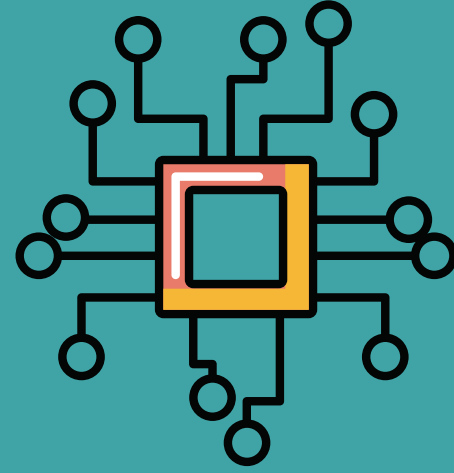# NADIA RASHAD

Apprentice Software Developer, Raytheon UK

I started my apprenticeship with Raytheon, one of the largest aerospace, intelligence services' and defence manufacturers, in September 2020. I was always interested in technology and my friend gave me the push I needed to switch careers and become a Software Developer. I spend a lot of time building and testing software, maintaining systems, shadowing, and learning from my peers.

As I was switching careers to become a Software Developer, I enrolled onto Northcoders, which is a coding bootcamp that helped me to develop my skills. I had a good group of friends who were already Software Developers and they helped me with my studying and training. This was the only apprenticeship I applied for, I was nervous but worked really hard on my tech test and was glad to get the job, Raytheon have been so supportive!

My apprenticeship is delivered by Staffordshire University. We have an induction week on campus at the beginning of each semester and dedicate one day a week towards online lectures and study. The 20% off-the-job study time really helps to stay on top of the heavy workload.

I love to go for walks and cook! I'm also loving the new season of You on Netflix and Selling Sunset!

Apprenticeships are a great way to get into the industry, you'll be studying and gaining work experience at the same time. Also, you'll be earning money rather than getting yourself into debt, apprenticeships are most definitely the way forward!