

Post Details		Last Updated: 02/02/26		
Faculty/Administrative/Service Department	IT Services			
Job Title	Data Platform & Integration Manager			
Job Family	Professional Services	Job Level	5	
Responsible to	Head of Digital Solutions & Innovation			
Responsible for (Staff)	Integration developers and data lake house engineers			

Job Purpose Statement

The Data Platform & Integration Manager will provide strategic and technical leadership across two complementary domains: the organisation's data platform and its enterprise data integrations. The role oversees the design, development, and stewardship of the data lakehouse and associated analytical data assets, while also directing the delivery and governance of systems-level data integrations that support operational processes.

The post-holder will be expected to work closely with assigned project managers, organisational stakeholders, data owners, solutions architects, business analysts, subject matter experts, testers, developers, technical leads, end users, support teams and third parties to manage data, integrations and data warehousing across the technology ecosystem. The role involves data lifecycle of systems data integration and warehousing, resource planning & management, and resolution of issues that impede the data lifecycle and integration effort.

Key Responsibilities This document is not designed to be a list of all tasks undertaken but an outline record of the main responsibilities (5 to 8 maximum)

Strategic Leadership

- Shape and communicate the strategic direction for enterprise integration and future data platform development
- Promote principles, guardrails, and patterns that enable scalable, secure, and maintainable data flows
- Ensure architectural decisions are proportionate to the business need and grounded in good practice
- Engage directly with senior stakeholders to ensure data platform capabilities support the Digital 2030 Plan.

Design Assurance and Governance

- Review and guide integration designs to ensure they align with best practice
- Challenge and refine requirements early to reduce rework and improve predictability
- Ensure designs favour abstraction, loose coupling, and reuse where appropriate
- Maintain enterprise-level documentation that provides clear direction for the team.

Team Leadership and Capability Development

- Mentor and guide developers and analysts, helping build shared understanding across the team
- Reduce dependency on key individuals through clearer architectural guidance and repeatable patterns
- Support cross-skilling opportunities that prepare the team for a future combined integration and analytics function.

Stakeholder Engagement

- Act as a visible, trusted, and approachable point of contact for technical and non-technical stakeholders
- Explain complex ideas clearly and adapt communication style to suit different audiences
- Facilitate collaborative decision making across projects, ensuring designs remain pragmatic and sustainable.

Continuous Improvement

- Drive a culture of proportionate and efficient design
- Support reduction of technical debt across the data platform estate
- Ensure lessons from external partners are understood and embedded.

N.B. The above list is not exhaustive.

All staff are expected to:

- Positively support equality of opportunity and equity of treatment to colleagues and students in accordance with the University of Surrey Equal Opportunities Policy.
- Work to achieve the aims of our Environmental Policy and promote awareness to colleagues and students.
- Follow University/departmental policies and working practices in ensuring that no breaches of information security result from their actions.
- Ensure they are aware of and abide by all relevant University Regulations and Policies relevant to the role.
- Undertake such other duties within the scope of the post as may be requested by your Manager.
- Work supportively with colleagues, operating in a collegiate manner at all times.

Help maintain a safe working environment by:

- Attending training in Health and Safety requirements as necessary, both on appointment and as changes in duties and techniques demand.
- Following local codes of safe working practices and the University of Surrey Health and Safety Policy.

Elements of the Role

This section outlines some of the key elements of the role, which allow this role to be evaluated within the University's structure. It provides an overview of what is expected from the post holder in the day-to-day operation of the role.

Planning and Organising

- Plan and organise individual and team activities, in collaboration with the PMO, with an appreciation of longer-term issues, ensuring plans complement and feed into the broader IT and Digital roadmaps, strategies and plans.

Manage activities to facilitate major service/operational changes within the team, in support of efficiency and effectiveness.

Problem Solving and Decision Making

- Address problems and issues based on experience, seeking further advice for the most complex ones. Submit potential solutions and/or implement the resolution.
- Approach problems independently and in collaboration with colleagues, ensuring that solutions are identified and enacted to deliver results. Escalate to line management when a resolution does not appear obvious, or a proposed solution impacts other teams or budgets.

Continuous Improvement

- Revise or develop data and integration assurance procedures and policy for approval and contribute to their successful implementation in order to deliver appropriate benefits and ensure external (e.g. regulatory or national codes of practice) requirements are met.
- Improve specialist/technical/professional/vocational capabilities and expertise through work experience and/or professional qualifications and training.

Accountability

- The postholder will have a degree of independence to achieve operating, project, service results, provided that activities are consistent with approved plans, objectives, policies and precedents.
- Setting quality and professional standards and management of the service delivery for the Data Platform and Integration Team.
- Review activities against operational or service targets, e.g., a budget, and report to programme and projects as appropriate.
- Take appropriate responsibility for the delivery of work to deadlines and agreed standards, in support of the delivery of programmes and projects.

Dimensions of the role

- Manage and monitor resources/budgets within allocated programmes and projects where appropriate, to ensure maximum value is delivered for resources deployed.
- Contribute to resource and budget planning within the team.
- Manage the Data Platform and Integration team, to ensure the successful delivery of significant professional, technological services with broad impact to the University, in support of institutional strategies.
- Act as a mentor/coach to colleagues, which may involve training staff to support their occupational development.

Supplementary Information

- In liaison with other IT and Digital colleagues, to support the change management process with users / support staff in relation to product release and to ensure that appropriate knowledge transfer occurs.
- To support the definition and implementation of strategies for long-term system development e.g. through contributing ideas for the University's IT and Digital Strategy. The post holder will consider appropriate enhancements and upgrades to existing business systems, along with recommendations for new product development, using expert knowledge of relevant data, processes and functionality.

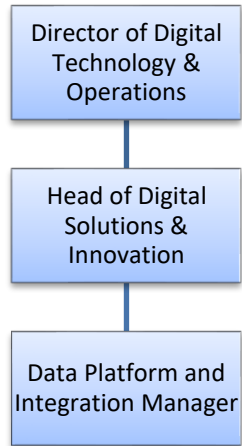
Person Specification This section describes the sum total of knowledge, experience & competence required by the post holder that is necessary for standard acceptable performance in carrying out this role.

Qualifications and Professional Memberships

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|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree, HND, NVQ 4 qualified or equivalent in a technical subject, plus a number of years' experience in similar or related team leader roles. • Or: • Significant vocational experience, demonstrating development through involvement in a series of progressively more demanding relevant work/roles, and the acquisition of appropriate professional or specialist knowledge. | E |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microsoft Certification in Azure Data Engineering or similar | D |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced technical architecture, or data management, qualification. | D |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ITIL Foundation Service Management qualification | D |

Technical Competencies (Experience and Knowledge)	Essential/ Desirable	Level 1-3
Strong understanding of data and integration good practice, including loose coupling, abstraction, security considerations, and the reuse of components and patterns.	E	3
An architectural mindset with the ability to think strategically about systems and data, without needing a formal architectural background.	E	3
Experience and a detailed understanding of a range of integration technologies and methods (e.g., APIs, file transfer) and the ability to apply appropriate integration patterns, such as publish/subscribe, to meet different business and technical needs.	E	3
Experience in leading or overseeing the implementation and operation of Microsoft Azure Integration Services, including Logic Apps, Service Bus, API Management, Event Grid, CI/CD pipelines, infrastructure-as-code (e.g., Bicep), Azure Functions, and Azure DevOps.	D	3
Strong knowledge of data lake house architecture and relevant technologies (e.g., Microsoft Fabric, Apache Spark, Delta Lake, AWS Lake Formation).	D	3
Experience in the design, development, deployment and ongoing operations of data pipelines to bring data from source destinations into a data lake and/or a data warehouse, utilising ETL and championing data reuse.	D	3
Experience of delivering data integrations, warehousing and lifecycle management in an educational organisation.	D	n/a
A good awareness of (and interest in) current and future trends within IT.	D	n/a
Special Requirements:		Essential/ Desirable
The post holder will be required to be flexible regarding working hours, including working unusual hours and being prepared to work outside normal working hours on an occasional basis.		E
Core Competencies This section contains the level of competency required to carry out this role.		Level 1-3
Communication		3
Adaptability / Flexibility		3
Customer/Client service and support		2
Planning and Organising		3
Continuous Improvement		3
Problem Solving and Decision Making Skills		3
Managing and Developing Performance		3
Creative and Analytical Thinking		3
Influencing, Persuasion and Negotiation Skills		3
Strategic Thinking & Leadership		3
<p>This Job Purpose reflects the core activities of the post. As the Department and the post holder develop, there will inevitably be some changes to the duties for which the post is responsible, and possibly to the emphasis of the post itself. The University expects that the post holder will recognise this and will adopt a flexible approach to work. This could include undertaking relevant training where necessary.</p> <p>Should significant changes to the Job Purpose become necessary, the post holder will be consulted and the changes reflected in a revised Job Purpose.</p>		
Organisational/Departmental Information & Key Relationships		
Background Information <p>With an operating budget of ca. £10M and complement of approx. 100 staff, University IT provides a wide range of administrative and academic computing and information services for all staff and students at the University. Increasingly seen as mission critical, IT underpins both the operational heartbeat of the University and enables strategic developments. Over the coming 3 years, IT Services' objectives are 5 fold:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enhance the Student Experience 2. Enable effective and efficient business operations 3. Support Research Activities 4. Refresh and develop IT & Digital Strategy 5. Implement the Operating Model for IT. 		

Department Structure Chart



Relationships

Internal

- Working frequently with staff and students of all levels of technical expertise, resolving any system integration problems, fulfilling requests for new services or resources and providing effective technical advice.
- Liaising with other teams within IT.

External

- Working with established external suppliers and consultancy organisations to specify testing solutions.
- Liaising with fellow Test professionals across and beyond the higher education sector.