

Mark McDonald

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Education

Ballymahon Vocational School

2020 – 2026

- **Junior Cert:** Engineering, Science, History - (**Higher Merit**), Math, Irish, Wood Technology, Business, Geography - (**Merit**), English - (**Achieved**)
- **Leaving Cert:** Pending Results

Work Experience

Shop Assistant

October 2023 – June 2025

Smyth's Supervalu

Ballymahon, Ireland

- Provided great customer service by assisting customers with product inquiries and enhancing shopping experience.
- Worked in the checkout area where I gained valuable knowledge on how to manage customer complaints. Additionally, I frequently assisted with point-of-sale transactions, which helped me develop quick critical thinking skills and increased my ability to work under pressure.
- Tasked to maintain store appearance by organizing stock, setting up promotional displays and restocking shelves.

Software Internship

November 2023

Ericsson's Software Campus

Athlone, Ireland

- Supported my team in the development of our website, Where I improved my ability to break down complex ideas and communicate them in detail to my other team members.
- Further developed my public speaking skills and presented group projects in front of employees as well as other interns.
- Enhanced my logical thinking by using flow charts to dissect a complex problem into smaller parts which allowed my team to take manageable steps to solve it.

Investment Internship

October 2024

Schroders Greencoat LLP

London, England

- Improved my research abilities, collaborated effectively within a team, and referenced key points for our presentation on how biogenic CO₂ is used in the food and beverage industry.
- Refined my public speaking and communication skills when I presented our project in front of **40+** Schroders executives in a boardroom, addressing key points on renewable energy.
- Gained unique and valuable insights into the working world and the operations of a multi-billion-euro asset management firm.

Extracurricular Activities

Student Council, Chairperson

2024 – 2025

- Improved my organisational skills and presentation skills as chairperson of the Student Council. Held **10+** meetings over the school year in which we discussed student problems and any other upcoming school events.
- Oversaw and coordinated key school initiatives, including organising fundraising events such as the "Elephant in the Room" campaign. I also led a comprehensive sensory audit, assembling multiple teams to assess every classroom for its inclusivity and accessibility towards students with sensory sensitivities in the school.
- Actively improved my school by implementing a suggestion box in the canteen area so students could anonymously voice their concerns which allowed us to grasp the current problems effecting the student body. Helped change the school lunches for a more favourable option list that improved student and teacher morale.

School Chess Team

2022 – 2026

- I was an active member of my school chess team, where I developed skills to think logically and analyse complex situations. This experience also gave me the opportunity to enhance my communication skills with other team members and teachers.

Achievements

- Awarded Best Climate Action Award 2024 in the Longford Post Primary Awards.
- 2nd Place in the 2024 Zero-Days Cybersecurity CTF in University College Dublin.
- Represented my school in the 2023 PI Day Maths Quiz in Wilson's Secondary School.
- Completed Bronze Gaisce Award during Transition Year.

Skills

- **Technical Skills** - Microsoft Excel, Word and PowerPoint.
- **Personal Skills** – Leadership, Problem Solving, Time Management.
- **Coding Languages** - Python, HTML and CSS.

References

- References available on request