

Essential Skills for Study and Employment.

There are two main categories of skill types, hard and soft skills. Hard skills are generally more technical in nature such as using software or processing a mathematical problem. Soft skills are more orientated around personality such as positivity, communication, empathy etc. [1] Many of the skills that are required for successful study transfer to employment and vice versa. Skills are not just talents such playing piano or juggling but they are also personal attributes one does well such as social skills, problem solving and empathy.

Attitudes and aptitudes can be more important than formal qualifications in the eyes of an employer. [2] However essential skills refer to everyday number, communication, digital literacy and employability skills according to UCAS. [3] Digital literacy is becoming more and more essential for many jobs and an essential element to other essential skills. Skills for employment, such as planning, organisation and time management



Figure 1 Frederik Magle [6]

would most likely involve the use of digital calendars, project management systems, and/or customer relationship management systems. In 2015, Cebr calculated that Wales had the UK's highest level of population that do not have at least one basic digital skill. [4] There are a number of reasons for this, including offsets of digital uptake which have been slower in Wales than the rest of the UK. However, the divide has been reducing since 2010. [5]



Figure 2 Vancouver Film School [7]

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