

Why digital skills are important

The pace of digitisation is having a profound effect on our work and home lives however, there remains a digital skills crisis.

52% of the workforce does not have the digital skills deemed essential for modern life^[1]. This “hidden middle” is potentially hindering the productivity and commercial success of many businesses across the UK.

Digital skills drive employment, productivity, economic prosperity and inclusion and help the UK compete in a digital world.

17.1M

17.1 million people don't have the essential digital skills for work, this equates to 52% of the workforce ^[1]

23%

Only 23% of the workforce has had digital skills training from their employer ^[1]

9M

Nine million people are unable to use the internet or their devices without assistance ^[1]

Who we are

Established in October 2019, FutureDotNow is a coalition of leading companies and civil society organisations, committed to accelerating digital upskilling through coordinated industry action.

140+ coalition

members so far with a potential reach of millions of employees, customers and in the community ^[2]

Members include:



accenture



Summary of our mission

OUR AMBITION	To accelerate the UK's digital skills at scale
RATIONALE	Digital skills drive employability, productivity, economic prosperity & inclusion
TARGET GROUP	Working age adults across the UK
APPROACH	To accelerate digital upskilling through coordinated industry action

To accelerate digital upskilling through coordinated industry action we are focused on four priorities:



1	2	3	4
Working with large employers to upskill employees, at scale	Developing a common framework for upskilling customers	Using motives to “go digital” to improve outcomes	Building the tools marketplace

Scale matters: as a coalition we are greater than the sum of our parts, and together we can make a real impact on digitally upskilling the nation.

Read our latest report: [The hidden middle: Unlocking the essential digital skills opportunity](#)

[1] Statistics sourced from the Lloyds Bank UK Consumer Digital Index 2020

[2] May 2021