



FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

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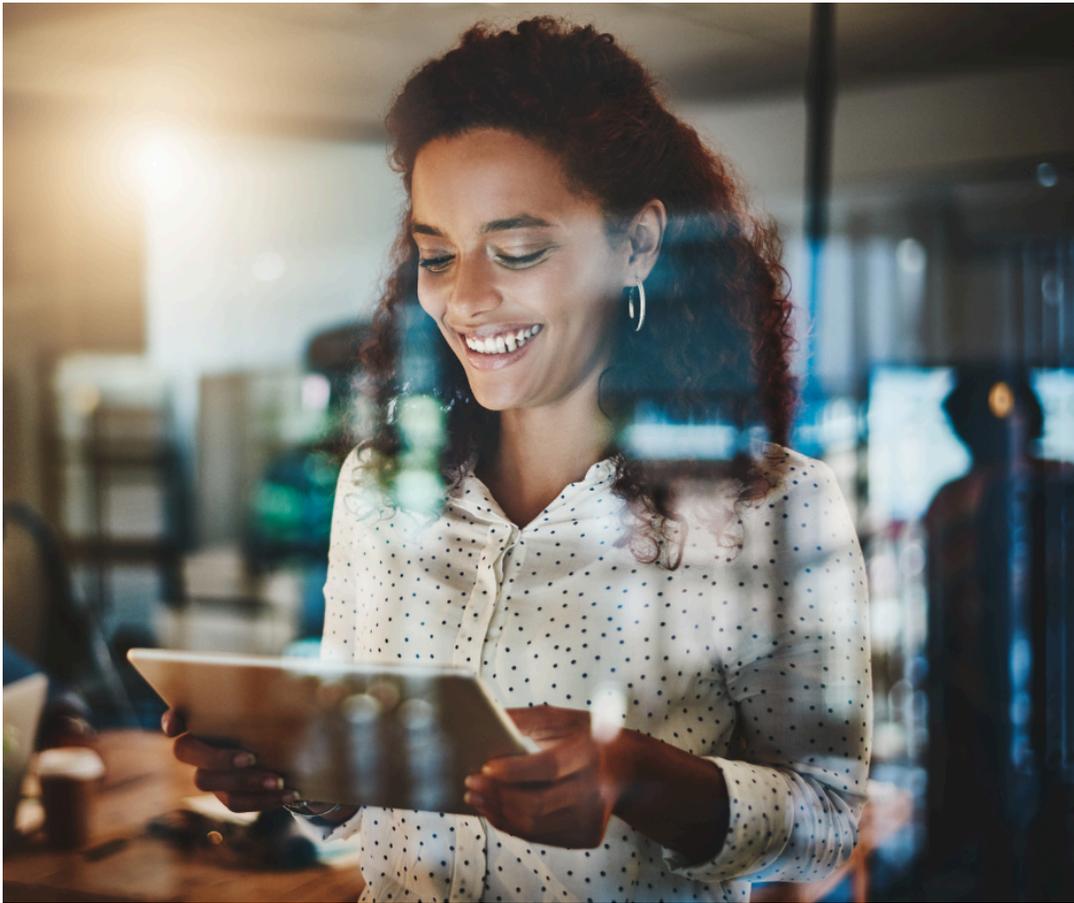
Welcome to our February newsletter!

In this newsletter, you can learn all about the GLA Assistant Director's visit to our Brixton centre, how to improve your computer's performance and much more.

Read below!

Follow us on social media!





The UK's Growing Need for Skilled Engineers

Why Computer Engineering is a Smart Career Choice

Did you know that engineering jobs are in demand?

Currently, the UK is facing a critical shortage of skilled engineers, which could lead to slow development and economic growth.

One of the most in-demand specialisms is computer engineering and is easy to understand why. As we increasingly rely on technology and the need for green energy alternatives accelerates, the need for professionals who can maintain, design and/or build computer systems has also increased.

Why choose Computer Engineering?

- Strong job prospects: This career offers competitive salaries and excellent job prospects

- Flexibility and remote work: Many computer engineering roles offer flexible hours and remote work options, making it easier to balance career and personal life
- Creative problem solving: If you enjoy creative thinking, innovation and collaboration, this career is perfect for you.

Possible job roles in the UK

With computer engineering skills, you could move into roles such as:

- IT Support Technician
- Computer Repair Technician
- Network Technician
- Systems Technician
- Hardware Engineer
- Data Centre Technician
- Technical Support Analyst

How can a career in Computer Engineering benefit women?

Besides opening doors to a world of possibilities, a career in computer engineering can offer a variety of unique opportunities to women, such as:

- Drive innovation
- Enjoy rewarding future-proof careers
- Break barriers
- Close the gender gap
- Chance to lead
- Make a lasting impact

How to Get Started

1. Enrol in a Computer Engineering Course: We are proud to offer one at MI Skills (up to Level 3)
2. Build Practical Skills: The internet is full of exercises where you can practice your learned skills
3. Seek Mentorship and Networking: Connect with professionals in the field and attend industry events to learn from others and find career opportunities. If you are a woman, you can also join women-in-tech groups.

4. Explore Apprenticeships and Internships: Many companies offer apprenticeships and internships for aspiring computer engineers, providing a direct path to employment and valuable on-the-job training.

If you would like more information about our Computer Engineering course, click the button below.

[Learn More](#)



Clean Out Your Computer Day

On the 9th of February, we will be celebrating “National Clean Out Your Computer Day”. This is a perfect reminder to organise your files, clean your computer of digital clutter and protect your personal information.

Cleaning your computer is extremely important, as over time, computers can become slow and hard to use. Deleting old files, unused apps and temporary data will speed up your device, free storage space, reduce system errors and even protect your personal data.

Here are seven easy steps that you can take:

1. Backup

Before you delete or uninstall anything, make sure to back up your documents, photos, videos and apps, because once you delete them, it

will be very hard to retrieve them again.

2. Delete files you no longer need

- Old documents and downloads
- Duplicates of photos and videos
- Files you no longer use

3. Organise your folders

- Create folders for work, study and personal files
- Rename files so they are easy to find
- Move documents out of your desktop into folders

4. Uninstall unused programmes

- Remove apps you no longer use
- Clear old software you no longer need

5. Empty your recycle bin

Unless you empty the recycle bin, deleted files will still take up space on your computer.

6. Run a virus scan

This helps keep your computer safe and secure.

7. Clean your keyboard and screen

Use a soft cloth and screen cleaner to remove any dust and fingerprints.

Following these steps and keeping your computer clean will lead to less stress and more productivity.

Learner & Team Member Spotlight - *Nadine M.*

IT Support staff member & Computer Engineering former learner

This month, we had the pleasure of talking to Nadine, a former learner who now works at MI as our IT Support and Admin Officer. Nadine, originally from London, came from a phlebotomy background and studied Computer Engineering with us after being made redundant.

Read more about her story and why she enjoys working in IT:

Q1: Nadine thank you so much for being here. My first question for you is: What inspired you to work in IT?

N: I enjoy working with technology because it is an essential part of modern life. I particularly enjoy managing systems and supporting users, helping them work more efficiently and resolve issues effectively. Technology saves time, improves productivity, and I value playing a role in supporting something people rely on every day.

Q2: It seems you take a lot of pride in your job. Can you let us know a bit more about when you started working at MI and how you applied for the role?



N: I would recommend focusing on gaining relevant certifications while also volunteering in an environment where you can apply and develop your IT skills in practice. In addition, YouTube is a valuable free resource for

N: *I began working with MI in October 2025, following six months of volunteering with the organisation. During my IT course, MI was seeking a volunteer to assist with IT-related tasks. I put myself forward and provided support to both students and staff.*

Q3: Well done for going for it and putting yourself forward. It just goes to show that we should take opportunities when they come our way. Nadine, can you let us know more about how the journey began by telling us what made you decide to do a course?

N: *After being made redundant, I found the job market challenging, so I chose to use the time productively to refresh and strengthen my skills.*

Q4: Why did you choose to study at MI and what did you enjoy the most about learning at our centre?

N: *MI was offering a level 3 engineering course free of charge. I have a strong interest in information technology, which motivated me to refresh and update my knowledge to ensure it remains current and relevant. I was keen to build on my existing skills while learning new ones. The tutors were knowledgeable, supportive, and contributed*

learning IT concepts, and many companies offer free labs online that allow you to practice helpdesk and networking skills.

Q6: So many great ideas! I would love to hear your perspective on why you think it's important for other women to work in IT and how would you motivate them?

N: *I believe this is important because information technology is an integral and growing part of everyday life. As our reliance on technology continues, it is essential that women feel confident and comfortable using it, so they are not left behind as the industry evolves. The IT sector is expanding rapidly, and there is a significant opportunity for women who choose to pursue a career in this field.*

Q7: I may be biased, but I completely agree. Thinking back to when you were a learner, what would you say has been the most challenging and the most rewarding part of your learner journey?

N: *The most challenging aspect was completing the assignments, while the most rewarding part was supporting other students with IT-related issues and seeing their satisfaction once the problem was resolved.*

positively to the learning experience.

Q5: I'm so happy that you had such a positive experience, Nadine. Is there any advice you would give to another learner who wants to work in IT?

Q9: Nadine, I just have one last question for you: What is your favourite quote?

N: Bruce Lee's "Do not pray for an easy life, pray for the strength to endure a difficult one."

Thank you so much, Nadine, for sharing your inspiring journey. Your dedication to your craft is exceptional and clear to all of us.

Visit from the GLA Assistant Director - Mr. Ayo Akande



On Tuesday, 27th January 2026, GLA Assistant Director, Skills and Employment - Programme Delivery, Mr Ayo Akande, and the Principal Project Officer - Programme Delivery Skills Bootcamps, Nina Dawson, visited our Brixton Head Office to visit classes and meet our learners and staff.

The visit was an outstanding success, providing a powerful showcase of who MI is, what we do, how we do it, and how Transforming Lives remains at the heart of our mission. Mr Akande was extremely impressed by the engagement he witnessed from both learners and staff, as well as by the overall harmonious environment of the centre.

He clearly recognised that our work is always shaped around the needs of our learners, and that we consistently go above and beyond for every individual.

The visit made such a positive impact that Mr Akande plans to recommend to the Deputy Mayor that he visit us in the coming months - so please watch this space for further updates.

Upcoming Courses

Transform your life in 2026!

Check the list of our upcoming courses and register below:

Deptford

ESOL COURSES

ESOL Writing

03/03/2026 -06/05/2026

ESOL Speaking & Listening

26/03/2026 -29/05/2026

ENGLISH COURSES

Functional Skills English L1 & L2

14/04/2026 -25/06/2026

Functional Skills English L2

20/04/2026 -01/07/2026

MATHS COURSES

Brixton

ESOL COURSES

ESOL Reading E3

25/02/26 – 02/04/26

ESOL Speaking & Listening E3

26/02/26 – 22/05/26

ESOL Writing L1

04/03/26 – 08/05/26

ENGLISH COURSES

English with Confidence

23/02/26 – 03/03/26

MATHS COURSES

Functional Skills Maths L1 & L2

03/02/2026 -14/04/2026

Financial Literacy

04/02/26 – 13/02/26

Functional Skills Maths L1 & L2

20/02/26 – 09/04/26

I.C.T. COURSES

Business IT for Office L2

26/03/2026 -05/06/2026

Essential Digital Skills

13/04/2026 -29/06/2026

I.C.T. COURSES

Business IT for Office L2

06/01/26 – 18/03/26

Get Connected

12/01/26 – 22/01/26

Essential Digital Skills E3

12/01/26 –30/03/26

Essential Digital Skills E3

02/02/26 – 05/03/26

Business IT for Office L1

16/03/26 – 19/05/26

Business IT for Office L2

23/03/26 – 16/06/26

VOCATIONAL COURSES

Teaching Assistant

TBC

Childcare Skills Bootcamp

TBC

VOCATIONAL COURSES

Introduction to Care

08/01/26 – 16/01/26

Prepare to work in Adult Social Care L2

22/01/26 – 09/04/26

Enrol Now!

Refer a Friend

And get a £30 bonus



If you have a friend that would benefit from doing a course with us, you can easily refer them using the form below.

As a reward you will get a £30 voucher when they successfully complete a course with us.

[Referral Form](#)



Leave us a review on Google

If you studied or are studying with us, why not leave us a review on Google and shout out all the support you've received from our expert tutors and staff?

**Scan the QR code to
leave a review.**

If possible, please mention the
centre and the course you
studied.



February Diversity & Inclusion Calendar

Diversity & Inclusion Calendar

February 2026



LGBT+ History Month

From BC to AD LGBT+ people have existed. 2026 will be the 22nd UK LGBT+ History Month, the first UK LGBT+ History Month was in 2005. The month highlights the incredible things LGBT+ people in all our diversity have achieved throughout history, in all areas of life.
<https://lgbtplushistorymonth.co.uk/lgbt-history-month-2026/>



Time to Talk Day - 5th February

Every year Mind and Rethink Mental Illness run Time to Talk Day which is 'a day for friends, families, communities, and workplaces to come together to talk, listen and change lives'. Talking about mental health, let alone starting a conversation about it, is not always easy. However, it is through talking openly, in a safe environment, that we can raise awareness, increase knowledge and understanding, remove the stigma, and help improve the mental wellbeing of those around us. .
<https://www.matesinmind.org/training-and-resources/time-to-talk-day-5-february-2026>



Safer Internet Day – 10th February

Safer Internet Day 2026 will take place on the 10th of February 2026, with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI'.
[Safer Internet Day 2026 - UK Safer Internet Centre](https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day-2026)



Race Equality Week 2nd – 8th February



#ChangeNeedsAllOfUs

Race Equality Week is an annual global movement to spark and renew hope, inspire progress, and keep the momentum going in addressing race inequality.

<https://raceequalitymatters.com/race-equality-week/>



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