

# Senior Linux Systems Administrator



## Role Description

### GRADE

Grade 5

### LOCATION

Craiglockhart Campus  
Edinburgh

### LINE MANAGER

Network, Security &  
Data Centre Manager

### Role Summary

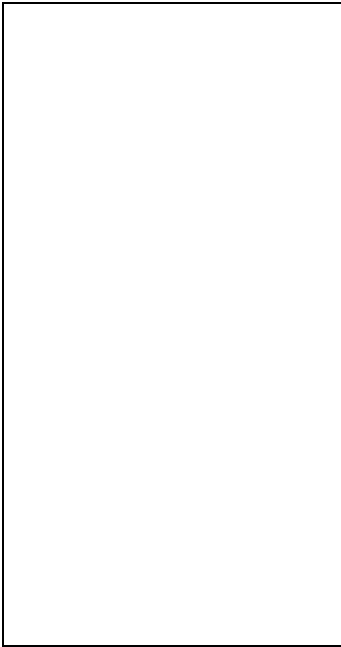
Information Services designs, implements and maintains the business and academic IT systems and services to support the Universities strategic and operational goals; supports staff, students and stakeholders to engage with IT systems and learning resource; supports cross Information Services (IS) engagement in service improvement, incident resolution and provide the link between development teams and frontline staff.

This role is within the Datacentre and Operations team, which along with Client Services, and Network and Security Services teams, form the Infrastructure Services Group.

The Datacentre and Operations team researches, designs, develops, implements and maintains services and processes to provide centralised compute and storage across the whole University.

The role holder should have a good understanding of a broad range of information technology principals as well as in-depth technical knowledge of Linux enterprise and HPC technologies.

The role holder will work collaboratively with other teams within Information Services, and with other professional services and academic services staff.



**Line Management Responsibility for:**

This role does not have any line management responsibilities currently.

## Main Duties and Responsibilities

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- Be a technical lead in the development and management of Linux and HPC services and related infrastructure to agreed requirements. You will be viewed as the technical lead for areas of your responsibility and expected to lead appropriately in this area whilst managing risk.
- Evaluate and recommend new and innovative Linux enterprise and HPC technologies and solutions where a potential benefit to the University can be demonstrated.
- Initiate relationships and work proactively with multiple stakeholders (academic schools and professional service departments), to understand their computational and infrastructure needs, making key recommendations and providing appropriate help and advice in development and support issues to best serve customer requirements and meet strategic objectives.
- Provide technical support to academic staff and researchers using Linux and HPC systems, including troubleshooting, resolving issues, and offering guidance on system best practices. Assisting with setting up their computational environments, including batch job submission, job scheduling, and resource allocation.
- Provide advice and training on the use of specialised software tools, libraries, and frameworks commonly used in HPC environments; promoting the use of HPC within the School of Computing, Engineering & The Build Environment, School of Applied Sciences and beyond.
- Provide day-to-day support, advice and guidance to more junior staff, directing their work, and delivering training on your areas of expertise, fostering a knowledge-sharing and collaborative environment.
- Stay abreast of emerging technologies and industry trends, recommending improvements to the Linux and HPC services and security practices.
- Collaborate with vendors and service providers, ensuring effective management of IT contracts and support agreements.
- Participate in disaster recovery planning and testing exercises to maintain system integrity and recoverability.
- Create and maintain relevant documentation for developments and support of services as instructed by your line manager and as expected as part of project delivery.
- Be fully conversant with the change management and incident handling procedures and ensure they are effectively implemented and escalated when appropriate.
- Participating in the "Out of Hours Support" Scheme if required.
- To undertake any other duties as may reasonably be required by your Line Manager and/or Head of Infrastructure.
- Role model the University's values & behaviours.
- Be responsible for ensuring that the information and records processed (received, created, used, stored, destroyed) on behalf of the University are managed in compliance with all applicable legislation, codes and policies e.g. [Data Protection](#), [Information Security](#) and [Records Management](#).

## PERSON SPECIFICATION

ESSENTIAL      DESIRABLE

### Education / Qualifications

- A degree in an IT related discipline or extensive relevant practical experience of supporting and delivering IT infrastructure solutions.
- Qualification in any industry standard IT certification.

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### Skills / Experience

- Proven experience of developing, deploying, managing and troubleshooting a Linux server environment, preferably in a Higher Education or large-scale enterprise environment.
- Proficiency in administering and troubleshooting common distributions – CentOS, RHEL, Ubuntu Server
- Practical experience of configuration management using technologies such as Puppet, Ansible, Chef, SaltStack
- Practical experience of source code management tools (Git, GitLab, GitHub)
- Practical experience of scripting languages (Bash shell, Python)
- Excellent problem-solving and analytical skills, with the ability to troubleshoot complex issues efficiently.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills, capable of collaborating with various stakeholders.
- Confidence to lead meetings with University colleagues to understand and scope requirements, with the ability to present complex technical solutions to a non technical audience.
- Project management skills, capable of handling multiple tasks and prioritising effectively.
- Ability proactively mentor and lead a team, promoting a positive and innovative work culture.
- A passion for proactive continuous learning and staying up to date with technology advancements.

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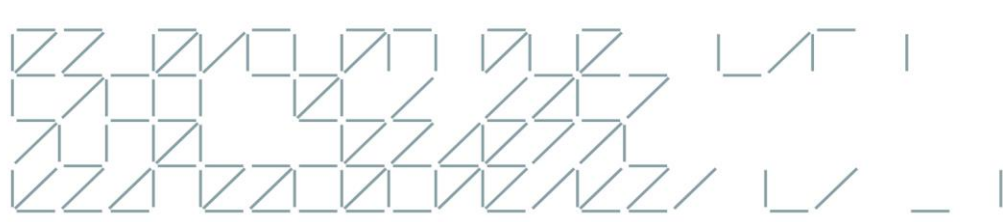
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• Knowledge of ITIL or other IT service management frameworks is advantageous.	✓
• Knowledge of Apache/MySQL	✓
• Familiarity with a VMware vSphere and VMware NSX environment	✓
• Practical experience of centralised log management (ELK stack, Splunk, Graylog)	✓
• Ability to inspire, motivate and guide more junior team members.	✓
• Willingness to participate in personal development to achieve qualification in industry standard IT certifications.	✓