

## SHIKHA



**Job:** Lead Technical Architect

**Company:** The Home Office

I am the Lead Architect working on one of the Policing National Transformation Projects. I assure services and system quality and architecture, making sure the technical work fits into the broader strategy for the government. I act as the primary interface for technical requirements and

product design.

Competent

Executor

Adaptable

**The skills I use most in my job...** Technical leadership and mentoring

- Seeing the bigger picture
- Making effective decisions
- Communicating and influencing

**The most interesting thing I've worked on in my career so far...** My current project is challenging, but interesting. I use cutting-edge cloud technology to support police officers' day-to-day work. The aim is to provide a single sign-on login service on all platforms they use. It will help improve policing performance when on the road or in the office.

**What inspired me into digital and tech...** I have a strong background in maths and science, and the way tech is evolving attracted me towards digital and technology. Problem-solving has been my core skill, and my passion for implementation, logical and analytical thinking in architecture and code made me take my career seriously.

**My educational background is...** I have a Master's degree and am a graduate in Computer Science and Applications. My appetite for learning and my curious mind have helped me continue to master new technology and implement it. My analytical side helps me find effective solutions for each problem professionally and personally.

**What advice I'd give to girls thinking about a career in digital and tech...** BREAK THE BIAS AND GLASS CEILING! No educational background, age, or experience can stop you from stepping into the digital and tech world. There are so many different roles in the tech sector beyond purely coding. It is a well-paid space, and will get you involved in an industry that's incredibly energetic, exciting, and satisfying.