Initial Report

Online Booking System for After-School Childcare

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Module Credits: 40

1   Project Description

This project focuses on designing and implementing an online system that allows parents to be able to book their children into after-school childcare. The system should also allow the after-school childcare supervisors to log in and check which children are booked in for the childcare, as well as the child's information such as contact details, next of kin etc. I intend to accomplish this project by creating an online booking system that is not limited to after-school childcare, but can be used for a multitude of events.

I plan to create a system than can be downloaded from the system's website, then installed on any webserver that has the ability to parse PHP and has access to a MySQL database. The system's website will contain detailed documentation and videos detailing how to install and use the system, as well as a frequently asked questions page and a contact form. The system itself will allow three types of users to login, "Clients", "Administrators" and "The Super User". The "Clients" section will display a calendar with bookable events, as well as events they are currently booked in to. The "Administrators" section will display a list of events that the administrator has created and who has booked in to these events, as well as a form to create a new event. "The Super User" section will display details of users, and the ability to create new "Administrators".

Alongside the online system, I wish to design and implement a mobile application that allows the different types of users to access their pages on their mobile devices. I intend to write the mobile application in HTML5 so that I am able to implement the application on multiple platforms, initially iOS and Android. The mobile application should allow the users to complete the same operations that the web version allows them to, but formatted as a mobile version.

I envision the outcome of this project to be an all-in-one booking system, complete with it's own branding, logo and website. Providing users an easy way to implement a booking system on their own website.

Requirements

To outline the specific requirements for this project, as discussed with my supervisor, the system must be able to:

- Allow "Clients" to register an account.
- Allow "Clients" to view bookable events.
- Allow "Clients" to book into an event.
- Allow "Clients" to remove themselves from a booked event.
- Allow "Clients" to modify their details.

- Allow "Administrators" to create events.
- Allow "Administrators" to delete events.
- Allow "Administrators" to view participants.
- Allow "Administrators" to view participants contact details.
- Allow "Administrators" to modify their details.
- Allow "The Super User" to view accounts.
- Allow "The Super User" to invoke and revoke "Administrator" privileges.

2   Project Aims and Objectives

Online Booking System
- Registration & Login System
  - Allow users to register for a "Client" account. This registration will send an e-mail providing a link to verify the new account to that e-mail address.
  - The login system will allow all three different types of users to be able to login on the same page.
- "The Super User" Page
  - This page shall display a section to view all accounts, of all types, registered with the booking system.
  - The page will provide the ability to delete accounts registered with the booking system.
  - The page will provide the ability to make an account an "Administrator" or remove this privilege.
- "Administrator" Page
  - This page shall display all events hosted by the current user.
  - This page shall display a section to create a new event.
  - This page shall display a section to delete a created event.
  - This page will allow the user to click on an event and view details of attendees.
  - This page will allow the user to modify their details.
- "Clients" Page
  - This page shall display all events available to book.
  - This page will allow the user to book an event.
  - This page will allow the user to remove themselves from a booked event.
  - This page shall display a section to modify their details.

Website Hosting Online Booking System

- Branding
  - o Create a name for the booking system.
  - o Develop a logo for the booking system.
  - o Set-up a domain and hosting package.
  - o Design the layout of the website.
- Documentation
  - o How-To installation video for Mac.
  - o How-To installation video for Windows.
  - o How-To general use video post installation.
  - o Text documentation for installation.
- FAQ
  - o A page including frequently asked questions, and resources to solve them.
- Contact Form
  - o A page with a form that will allow users to contact me for questions not included in the FAQ or documentation.

Mobile Application

- Design
  - o Design the layout and look of the application that is inclusive of the systems branding.
- Code
  - o Code the application in such a way that it connects to the backend webserver.
- Export
  - o Export the application to both the iOS "App Store" and the Android "Play Store".

3   Work Plan

Week Number	Date Commencing	Task
1	1st Feb	- Set-up hosting that is compatible with PHP and offers at least one MySQL database. - Think of, and purchase a suitable domain name for the hosting of the online booking system. - Think of a suitable name for the online booking system. - Design a logo for the online booking system.
2	8th Feb	- Research PHP & MySQL solutions. - Revise general PHP & MySQL. - Create the login and registration system.
3	15th Feb	- Create the "Administrator" portal. - Create an event function. - Delete an event function. - Display current events.
4	22nd Feb	- Create the "Clients" portal. - Display bookable events. - Create a book event function. - Create an un-book event function.
5	29th Feb	- Create "The Super User" portal. - Display all accounts. - Make account an "Administrator". - Revoke privileges. - Create a function to modify user details and add to all user types.
6	7th Mar	- Research solutions for mobile applications. - Decide on a solution suitable for the system.

7	14th Mar	- Code Application. - Registration and Login system. "Administrator" page.
8	21st Mar	Easter Break - Code Application. "Clients" page. "The Super User" page.
9	28th Mar	Easter Break - Design layouts. - Booking system layout. - Mobile application layout. - Both designs should resemble each other as best as possible.
10	4th Apr	Easter Break - Publish applications. - Send application for iOS App Store approval. - Submit application to Android Play Store. - Design website for hosting the online booking system. - Develop the website for hosting the online booking system. - Create documentation and how-to videos.
11	11th Apr	- Thoroughly test all aspects of the system. - Plan and begin final report.
12	18th Apr	Continue final report.
13	25th Apr	Continue final report.
14	2nd May	- Conclude system. - Hand-in final report.

Testing Phase

For the testing phase, as mentioned in the work plan, a questionnaire will be created asking for feedback on a list of specific actions that will test each aspect of the online booking system, hosting website and mobile application. This questionnaire will be given to five independent people from different

backgrounds and ages to gather a broad spectrum of results. Results will be collated and codified, then included in the final report.

Review Meetings

Myself and my supervisor have agreed to meet weekly, on a Monday at noon, for review meetings to discuss progression and any concerns either of us have throughout the process.