

Max Anderson

027 210 1490 | maxanderson.nz@gmail.com | maxanderson.dev | Wellington

PROFILE

Cybersecurity student at VUW, first year. Earlier this year I found a network misconfiguration at uni and reported it to the security team through proper channels. I also run a home Linux server with several self-hosted services, do bug bounty research on HackerOne, and came 1st nationally in Bebras (2024). Elected Class Rep for all four of my papers.

EDUCATION

Victoria University of Wellington

2026 - Present | BE(Hons) Cybersecurity

- Class Rep for all four papers: CYBR171, ENGR101, ENGR121, COMP102.
- Relevant papers this year: Cybersecurity Fundamentals, Engineering Maths, Engineering Science, Intro to Programming.

Wentworth Private School

Graduated 2025

- 1st nationally, International Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge (2024).
- Top of school in Computer Science (2025).
- Head of School Lighting Crew.

PROJECTS AND RESEARCH

VUW Network Misconfiguration Report

2026 | Independent research

- Discovered a dual-VLAN setup on the VUW network by checking DHCP leases and testing connectivity between segments.
- Documented differences in security policy between segments, including VPN-blocking behaviour.
- Wrote up the findings and sent them to the network team, who escalated to the cybersecurity team.

Linux Home Lab Server

2025 - Present | Ubuntu Server 24.04

- Repurposed enterprise hardware running 24/7 for about six months.
- Firewall with UFW and nftables, fail2ban with a custom jail for WordPress login attempts, key-only SSH.
- Cloudflare Zero Trust Tunnel for remote access with no ports open to the internet.
- Running Jellyfin, Immich, Forgejo, WordPress, and Uptime Kuma in Docker Compose. Watchtower handles updates.
- nginx reverse proxy behind Cloudflare CDN, Mullvad WireGuard on a separate VLAN interface.

SSH Brute-Force Alerter

2026 | Python

- Parses auth.log, counts failed SSH attempts by IP, and sends a Discord alert when a threshold is hit.
- Designed to run as a cron job alongside fail2ban.

HackerOne Bug Bounty

2026 - Present

- Testing authorised web targets for IDOR, SSRF, and authentication issues.
- Using Burp Suite Community, manual JS review, and API endpoint enumeration.

SKILLS

OS: Linux (Ubuntu Server, Fedora, Kali), Windows

Networking: TCP/IP, VLANs, SSH tunnelling, WireGuard, Cloudflare Tunnel

Security: Burp Suite, Wireshark, Nmap, tcpdump, fail2ban, HackerOne

Infrastructure: Docker, Docker Compose, Watchtower, nginx, systemd

Programming: Python, Bash, Java (coursework)

WORK EXPERIENCE

The Warehouse, Shop Floor

2022 - 2025

- Rostered retail shifts across multiple departments for three years.
- Customer service, stock management, and till work including cash handling.
- Helped with stocktakes and floor replenishment.
- Picked up new systems and procedures across different departments quickly.