

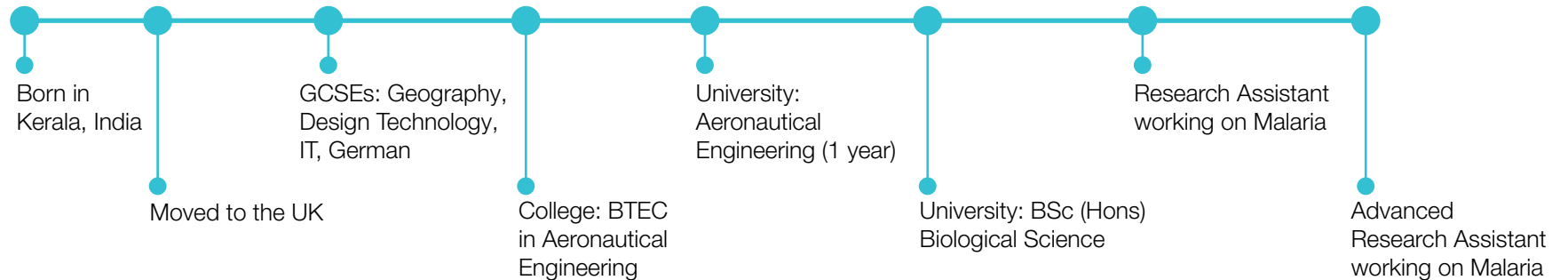


**Name:**  
Abey

**Job title:**  
Advanced Research Assistant

**What do I do:**  
I work in the Genomics Surveillance Unit (GSU) lab preparing mosquito and malaria parasite samples for DNA sequencing. These samples are received from research partners all around the world and the data helps us to identify whether any new parasite strains are emerging.

### My career highlights



**What do I enjoy most about my job?**  
I enjoy working with my team who are very friendly and funny. I also have a good work-life balance. I know the work I do will have real impact in people's lives.

**What was my favourite subject at school?**  
My favourites were Science, PE and DT - anything that wasn't sitting in front of a textbook. At University I enjoyed Human Anatomy and Microbiology.

## Skills I use in my job :



### Concentration

It is important to reduce mistakes when working with thousands of samples, as it may be irreversible and affects data return.



### Teamwork

I receive over 500 samples a month, so I need to work with my team to get them processed quickly.



### Problem solving

Lab work never goes to plan and often requires adapting and quick changes for timely returns of data.



### Organisation

I need to know where each sample is and what stage of processing it is going through.

## My top tips for students wanting a career in genomics:

- Start early, find out what you love about genomics and which field you are most interested in.
- Seek out opportunities; look out for internships, work experience, conferences.
- Keep up with relevant developments; stay informed about new research and technologies.

## What's next in my career?

I would like to expand my experience into other areas in science by learning different processes and laboratory skills. Hopefully a few years of experience in a variety of lab work can take me to Staff Scientist or Laboratory Manager.

