



**Name:**

Katie

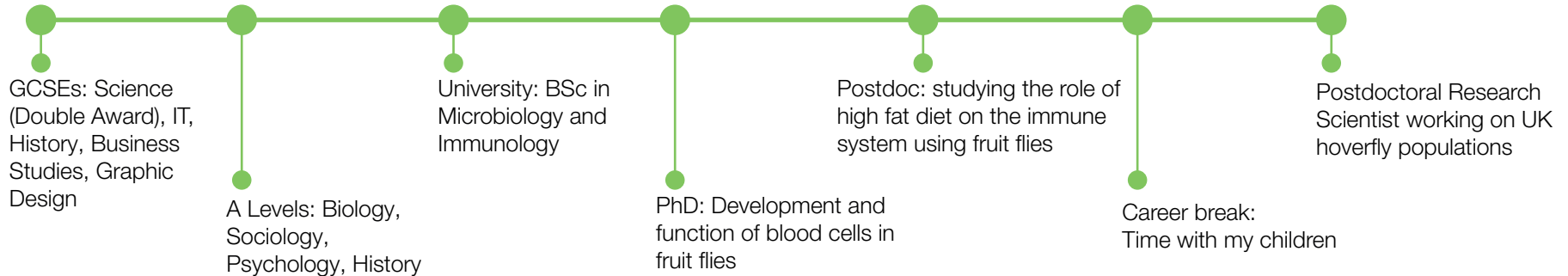
**Job title:**

Postdoctoral Research Scientist

**What do I do:**

My project looks at seasonal populations of two UK hoverfly species, the Marmalade Hoverfly and Dronefly, as they are both partial migrants. If, when and where they choose to migrate is determined by their DNA. By studying their DNA we can learn about how migration is controlled. This is important as hoverflies perform many beneficial tasks throughout their lifecycle including pollination, pest control and nutrient recycling.

**My career highlights**



**What do I enjoy most about my job?**

I feel in my role I am able to continue learning new things almost every day, which I love. In addition to this, the feeling that I can contribute to scientific knowledge through my research is really rewarding.

**What does a typical day/week look like in my role?**

This has changed during the course of my project. Initially I was lab-based, extracting DNA from my hoverflies. Now my time is spent much more on my computer carrying out analysis of the hoverfly sequence data. I also attend seminars and group meetings each week.

## Skills I use in my job :



### Communication

I discuss my work with others from varying fields, with new and interesting perspectives, in order to achieve the best project progression.



### Coding

I use code, with bioinformatics tools, to analyse and visualise my data.



### Problem solving

This is another important and everyday part of my role. Communication and teamwork often help overcome problems.



### Analysis

Much of my work involves analysing and interpreting data. This can range from analysing lab-based experiments to checking the quality and quantity of DNA from an extraction, to computational investigation of data.



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

- Go for it! When I was younger I never dreamt I'd be in the profession that I am in today, but I love it.
- I would say, find something you love to learn about and pursue it – that's how I got here.

## What hobbies do I have?

I love running and do this several times a week in summer. I also enjoy writing and sewing. I have three little boys at home who I love spending my time with too.