

APPRENTICE OF THE WEEK

KELLY-ANNE HARRISON

LEVEL 7 RESEARCH SCIENTIST



KELLY-ANNE HARRISON
Early shift Production Supervisor

Meet Kelly-Anne Harrison, a Research Scientist apprentice working at Avantor and studying at Keele University.

What apprenticeship are you studying and what does the study involve?

I am currently studying the Research Scientist apprenticeship with the Analytical Science specialism at Keele University.

The apprenticeship is teaching me the technical skills to plan and conduct scientific experiments relevant to my role in Avantor.

The apprenticeship has also helped my confidence from a leadership perspective too, with the business element embedded in the programme learning.

Why did you want to do the apprenticeship?

I wanted to broaden my knowledge of other analytical science techniques and I felt the apprenticeship would provide me with the experience and confidence to do this.

I also wanted to ensure I was equipped and had the support and specific learning for me to gain confidence as a professional and scientific leader in the sector.

What is your current role?

I am currently an Early shift Production Supervisor at a HPLC Column Production Laboratory and site Sustainability Lead.

How did you get into your current role?

I completed a BSc in Zoology and then I took the first scientific field job available to gain lab experience before later joining Avantor as a Lab Technician. I progressed internally as a Production Scientist until I was promoted to Production Supervisor of my shift.

What has been your proudest achievement on your apprenticeship to date?

I won Avantor UK's Rising Star award in 2021, this achievement was undoubtedly aided by the leadership and project management techniques I developed through studying the Research Scientist Apprenticeship at Keele University.

What do you want to do once you complete your apprenticeship?

I would like to pursue internal avenues of progression, whilst embedding my learning and knowledge from the apprenticeship programme. I will continue to lead the site in sustainability too, which is something I am passionate about.

What would you say to someone considering an apprenticeship

Just go for it! The jump from scientist to leader can be intimidating, but the apprenticeship allowed me to feel like I had a safe environment to explore and develop both analytical and managerial techniques. It has given me the confidence to be a leader and exposed me to invaluable content and networks to aid my growth as a scientific leader in the sector.

**[CLICK HERE](#) TO ACCESS
THE LEVEL 7 RESEARCH SCIENTIST
STANDARD**