

# Careers Chat



## ABOUT MADDISON COKE

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### MY JOURNEY INTO SCIENCE

I absolutely loved science at school; science and maths just made so much more sense to me than any of the English-based subjects. This may have been to do with the fact that I am dyslexic and words get very muddled when I read and write. Engaging with what's behind the words became more difficult as I went through school. The hands-on elements of science helped me to understand the concepts more easily and I found mixing and measuring a lot more fun than reading! I still enjoy this in my job now although getting hands-on in the small scales I work with now can be a little more of a challenge!

### MY JOB

I help people who are doing cutting edge science get the best results by making sure machines are running and can support the research. The machine I specialise in has the ability to put down a single atom very precisely. Atoms are tiny particles that make up everything around us and are 100,000,000 times smaller than a ping pong ball, so that's very small! These new materials that we make are the building blocks for new technologies such as quantum computers - the next generation of computers that will be able to help us solve more complex problems and hopefully provide the tools that can be applied to global issues such as climate change and new medicines.

### MY HOBBIES

I love walking with my wife and dog, especially in woods and hills. Being outside is very important to me and helps to clear my head. Sometimes when I am at work there can be lots of numbers and problems going on in my head so getting out in nature helps me to think through problems in a new way but also to switch off. I think it's really important to have balance in my life.

### A QUESTION I WANT TO ASK

What will be the next big materials development that will change the world for the better?