

# Oliver Shenton

[Portfolio](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [GitHub](#)

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## Projects

- **Personal Portfolio** - A dynamic and evolving showcase of my skills, originally built with **HTML, CSS, and JavaScript**, then **refactored with React and Tailwind CSS** to enhance performance and maintainability. Demonstrates expertise in **component-based architecture, state management, animations and responsive designs**. I regularly keep this updated to reflect my growth as a developer.
- **Node JS Chat App** - A dynamic chat application powered by **Socket.IO**, enabling real-time messaging. It features user location sharing, message timestamps, user preference tracking, and room-based messaging.
- **TutorMatch (In progress)** - A web application designed to connect students and tutors seamlessly. Built with **React and Tailwind CSS** for the frontend and **Node.js with MongoDB** for the backend. Utilizes **Express, JWT authentication, Mongoose, and REST APIs** to enable secure user authentication, dynamic dashboards, and seamless user interactions. Planned features include **calendar integration for booking sessions and Stripe API for secure payments**, enhancing the platform's functionality and user experience.
- Further projects can be found on my GitHub account.

## Work Summary

### Frontend Developer

2023 - Present

#### Freelance

- Proficient in frontend technologies, including **HTML, CSS, Tailwind CSS, JavaScript, React, and Vite**. I primarily use React, favouring components to create efficient and eligible code.
- Experience using backend technologies such as **Node.js, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, REST APIs, Jest**, and third-party API integration. I am also currently learning **Next.js**.
- Designed and developed multiple **dynamic and interactive web applications**, focusing on clean UI and performance optimization.
- Skilled in development tools like **Visual Studio Code and Git**, which I used to create and maintain my **personal online portfolio**.
- Committed to writing **optimized and efficient code** to enhance performance and ensure a seamless, user-friendly experience in web applications.
- Developed and published **three Android applications** using **Java**, achieving over **1,000 downloads** on the Google Play Store.
- While my role as a **DNA Analyst** is not in an agile environment, I collaborate across multiple teams, manage concurrent projects, and iterate based on feedback, closely mirroring agile workflows.
- Passionate about web development, I am committed to **continuous learning**, engaging in personal projects and online courses to stay updated with the latest advancements in technology.

### DNA Analyst

07/2021 - Present

*Eurofins Forensic Services - Birchwood Park, Risley, WA36FW*

- Advanced to a **Senior Analyst** position, demonstrating expertise and leadership within both a laboratory and office setting.

- As a **laboratory manager**, I oversee daily laboratory operations, ensuring efficient workflow and timely sample processing. I serve as the point of contact for addressing queries, liaising with supervisors, and resolving operational issues as they arise. I am also responsible for optimising processes, maintaining quality standards and facilitating smooth communication across teams to enhance overall efficiency and productivity.
- I am the **lead trainer** in my area, responsible for onboarding and mentoring new team members; designing, and delivering a structured training program tailored to individual needs. Over several weeks, I provide hands-on-guidance, technical instruction, and team integration support, ensuring new hires gain confidence and proficient in their roles; fostering a collaborative learning environment to enhance team cohesion and overall performance.
- Possess proficiency in a **diverse range of experimental techniques** such as PCR, electrophoresis, manual extraction, and the operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of robotic systems. Use a **Laboratory Information Management System** (LIMS) to process DNA samples.
- Ensure **strict compliance** with Good Laboratory Practise (GLP) standards and uphold quality assurance protocols to mitigate risks of contamination. This involves regularly **reviewing, revising, and training Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)** to drive operational efficiency and maintain high standards.
- Frequently **troubleshoot technical issues** for laboratory processes and equipment.
- Collaborate routinely with **multiple teams**, including Quality, LIMS developers, and technical specialists, to streamline and **optimise experimental workflows**, through repeated **User Acceptance Testing** (UATs) of new, unreleased processes, in specialised testing environments.

## Education Summary

### Keele University

2016 - 2020

*Lennard-Jones Building Keele, Newcastle-Under-Lyme, ST55BG*

- Bachelor of Science (BSc) Hons: Forensic Science.
- Second Class Honours.
- Conducted an in-depth dissertation analysing the impact of DNA phenotyping on racial profiling, exploring the ethical implications on law enforcement practises.
- Completed an extensive 40-hour forensic training course at the 'Body Farm' in Tennessee, specialising in the study of human decomposition and its forensic application.
- Participated in a collaborative project titled 'The Metabolomics of Death', measuring Phosphorous and Sulphur levels from decaying heart and lungs of cows and pigs over a six month period, to determine how accurate they can be used to determine the time of death of a corpse.

### Research Assistant

06/2019 – 09/2019

*The Christies NHS Foundation Trust – Manchester, M204BX*

- Joined a selective and ground-breaking cancer research team, as a research assistant, during my summer placement.
- Collaborated with PhD students, doctors, and fellow undergraduate to advance proton therapy research.
- Analysed complex datasets, particularly focussing on the BRCA2 gene, ensuring accuracy and relevance for ongoing cancer research.
- Developed strong data manipulation skills by utilising Python to process and model large datasets, then inserting them into a model designed to calibrate therapy beams.

### Other

- Full UK driving licence.
- Novice level Adobe Premiere Pro skills.