

Kata Farkas

Principal Consultant Water Microbiologist

Kata is an internationally known scientist with over 10 years of academic experience in catchment-to-coast microbial and chemical detection and source tracking, water-related human and animal health risk assessment, ecotoxicology and wastewater monitoring. She has extensive experience delivering high-profile projects for the UK and Welsh Governments, government agencies (Defra, Home Office, EA, NRW), and water companies.

Kata's previous research experience (Bangor University, 2015-2025) included various projects on coastal water quality mainly focusing on the Conwy Estuary (North Wales). She most-recently co-established and ran award-winning national wastewater monitoring programmes for tracking pathogens in wastewater in England and Wales. She led on a NERC-funded and contributed to an EU Horizon 2020 project to investigate, model and predict the transport of microbial/chemical pollutants in coastal water. She has also been collaborating with the shellfish industry to tackle emerging microbial water quality issues in shellfish harvesting areas via nutrient control.

So far, Kata has published 90 peer-reviewed science papers (original research and reviews) in wastewater-based epidemiology, faecal contamination assessment, environmental AMR and waterborne pathogen detection, tracking, modelling and risk assessment. Kata started working at WRC in June 2025 and has been assisting on launching WRC's microbial source tracking service and leading on multiple projects regarding drinking water quality and One Health.

Kata is an Experienced Professional (EIWater) member of the Institute of Water and holds an Honorary Research Fellow position at Bangor University to contribute to academic research and graduate student supervision. She is also one of RSK's People Champion, supporting staff wellbeing and EDI efforts.

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Kata Farkas

Principal Microbiology consultant - WRC | PhD in
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Daisy Allen

Senior Consultant Water Microbiologist

Daisy is a Senior Consultant in Microbiology at WRc. She has worked for a wide range of clients, delivering varied tasks that span across consulting, commercial and research functions. In the water science and risk area, she supports the delivery of project outputs both nationally and internationally including the following microbiology workstreams; incident management and review; treatment process optimisation; and Quantitative Microbial Risk Assessment.

Daisy holds an MSc with distinction in Freshwater and Marine Ecology from Queen Mary University of London where she studied predator-prey dynamics between microorganisms in activated sludge communities. After completing her postgraduate degree, Daisy developed practical skills in the industry by working for Thames Water as a Microbiology Analyst conducting laboratory tests on potable water samples across the London and Thames Valley region. Here, she was required to meet UKAS standards.

Since joining WRc in 2022, Daisy has been assigned as a technical lead on various projects. Daisy has consulted both DWI and DEFRA, on review outputs regarding indicators of sanitary significance and microbial source tracking markers respectively. Additionally, Daisy has managed both WRc Disinfection Forum, and the independent Microbiological Advisory service for UKWIR. The UKWIR Microsheets database offers UK water companies information on waterborne pathogens and nuisance organisms, covering their taxonomy, ecology, and environmental prevalence.

Activities outside WRc have included membership of the Biological Working Group in the Standing Committee of Analysts. Daisy is a member of the Royal Society of Biology and has CSci registration.

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Daisy Allen

Senior Consultant - Water Microbiologist CSci

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Nancy Battersby

Consultant Water Microbiologist

Nancy is a Consultant in Microbiology at WRc. Her expertise spans a range of topics within the field of water microbiology, including microbial source tracking, waterborne disease, and antimicrobial resistance. She currently supports a range of clients across the industry in projects within the areas of water microbiology, public health, and water safety planning. She has contributed to project outputs for water utilities, regulators, NGOs, and recently the aviation industry, covering subjects including microbial indicators of sanitary significance, alternative disinfection technologies, undesirable river biofilms (sewage fungus), emerging disease, microbial source tracking, and invertebrates in distribution. Nancy is familiar with the microbiological aspects of national and international drinking water regulation and has contributed as a technical consultant to reviews for the Drinking Water Inspectorate/Defra. Nancy also played a key role in the development of microbial source tracking capability in the WRc Microbiology team, providing a service to support clients in the detection and tracking of faecal pollution across different water environments.

Nancy holds a First Class MBiolSci (Hons) in Microbiology and Biochemistry from the University of Sheffield, where she conducted a research study on the growth dynamics and cell division machinery of key pathogen *Staphylococcus aureus* to support the identification of novel targets for antimicrobial development. During her undergraduate degree she studied the growth characteristics and commercial potential of green algae in hypersaline waters. Prior to joining WRc, Nancy worked as a Microbiologist in the Food/Biotech industry, specializing in enzyme production applications for food and pharmaceutical use. During this time, she gained experience in troubleshooting microbial contamination in an industrial context, performing microbiological analysis and problem-solving related to biofilm formation and sporulation. In this role she built relationships with both local and international clients and utilised a range of culture-based and molecular biology-based microbiological techniques to achieve client needs.

Nancy is a Registered Scientist and Member of the Royal Society of Biology.

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Nancy Battersby

Consultant Water Microbiologist RSci at WRc

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Carlos Campos

Technical Director

Carlos Campos is the Technical Director of Water Quality within WRc's Water Science Directorate, where he provides strategic leadership to support the transition to a sustainable water future. With over 20 years of professional experience in water quality and public health risk assessment, Carlos has led and contributed to a wide range of projects focused on microbial and chemical contaminants in Portugal, Australia, New Zealand, and the UK. Carlos specialises in water quality monitoring, pollution source apportionment, environmental and public health risk assessment, and catchment modelling. He has expertise in applying quantitative microbial risk assessment and other risk-based tools to support regulatory compliance, wastewater discharge assessments, recreational water management, and incident response. At WRc, Carlos leads WRc's Microbiology and Toxicology team and is focused on driving technical excellence, developing innovative services, and delivering high-value outcomes for clients. He works with multidisciplinary teams to integrate microbiology, toxicology, modelling, and data analytics into practical solutions that support long-term resilience in the water sector. Carlos is a member of the International Water Association and serves on the FAO/WHO Joint Expert Group on Microbial Risk Assessment, contributing to the development of international best practice in water quality and public health protection.

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Carlos Campos

Technical Director - Water Quality
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