

# Hannah Okafor

## MSc Environmental Science student

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### Research interests

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Freshwater ecology and nutrient pollution: how farm run-off changes the invertebrate life of chalk streams, measured with field sampling and eDNA. Applying for a funded PhD studentship in catchment science.

### Education

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#### MSc Environmental Science (Freshwater Systems), University of Wensum 2025–2026

Expected Distinction; current average 74%

Dissertation: Nitrate and invertebrate diversity in three Norfolk chalk streams (supervisor: Dr R. Lowe)

#### BSc (Hons) Biology, 2:1 (67%), University of Wensum

2022–2025

Dissertation: Mayfly larvae as indicators of fine sediment, 72%

### Research experience

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#### Field and lab work for the MSc dissertation

2026

- Sampled invertebrates at 18 sites over four months and identified them to family level.
- Ran nitrate and phosphate tests and analysed the results in R with mixed-effects models.

#### Research assistant (summer, paid), Broadland Rivers Trust

2025

- Collected water samples for an eDNA survey and kept the sample log and chain of custody.

### Presentations and teaching

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- Poster: Nitrate and chalk stream invertebrates, Postgraduate Research Day, University of Wensum | 2026
- Demonstrator, first-year ecology practicals, 40 hours | 2025–2026

### Research skills

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- Freshwater invertebrate sampling and identification
- Water chemistry tests
- R (tidyverse, lme4) and QGIS
- Writing for reports and posters