



Molly Charles

Technical Controller at Leeds

My Greencore career has been twisty, challenging & very exciting

As of 2025, I will be celebrating 10 years at Greencore, and what a journey it has been! I joined as a Technical Graduate on our Early Careers programme in 2015, having some prior knowledge of food manufacturing from my Summer placements during my Microbiology degree. Since then, I have been able to grow my knowledge, skills and behaviours, experiencing many different roles around the country, including at Atherstone, Manton Wood, DTS and Leeds sites, to name a few.

In my current role as Technical Controller at Leeds, the home of our Yorkshire Puddings, I have been particularly fortunate to mentor two Technical Graduates on programme, one of which is just starting their Greencore journey and the other having recently finished their programme. Mentoring these colleagues has been a great way for me to develop my leadership skills and has led me to reflect on my own experiences and how far I have come since completing my Greencore qualifications.

A recent passion of mine has been leading the Leeds Inclusion Catalyst group, a community that has helped build a more positive working environment for our site colleagues. Those involved have helped to deliver our annual calendar of inclusion events, represent a variety of views, and aim to raise awareness for inclusion and diversity across Leeds site. Our goal is to host at least one event each month to support our agenda, and I look forward to continuing to help the team achieve this.

During my time at Greencore, I have been fortunate to have been supported by great mentors who have encouraged me to go for new roles by giving me the confidence to believe in my abilities. One of my biggest achievements to date was in 2020, when I lead my first 2-day technical audit, and we received a green rating. I wouldn't have achieved this without the support of my mentor and the engagement of my team throughout the preparation period.

My advice to those considering a career at Greencore is to be prepared to step outside of your comfort zone, think about your aspirations and what you need to do to achieve this, and finally, be open to having a mentor who will support you in overcoming the first two. Greencore has a fantastic cohort of coaches and mentors who can help guide you to achieve your short and long-term goals.

