



## OLGA KAZAKOVA

Investigator, Developer and Service Provider

“Every day is never the same. It is anything but boring. It is high level of adrenaline.”

Olga Kazakova, Principal Research Scientist, National Physical Laboratory

### What kind of person is Olga?

Olga is a very methodical, resourceful and logical person. That's a fantastic combination for doing a research-intensive job in the Sciences! She's also very friendly and witty, which allows Olga to get along really well with the students she works with.

### What is Olga's job?

Olga is a Principal Research Scientist at the National Physical Laboratory (NPL), which is a world-leading research centre developing the most accurate measurement standards, science and technology available. Olga's role involves planning and carrying out new research projects. These are very varied and depend on what she or NPL are interested in pursuing. She also supervises PhD students, who are undertaking their own research projects. So, Olga provides them with guidance and knowledge so they can complete their degrees.

### How did she get that job?

Olga grew up in Russia and had a very different experience to growing up in the UK. She didn't aspire or have any ambition to work in Science until later in life. As being a scientist became more of a possibility, Olga did a master's in Physics, followed by a PhD in Physics and then took on a variety of junior research roles to build up her experience. You could say that it all paid off considering the career Olga has now!

### Why is Olga the 'Service Provider', 'Manager' and 'Explorer'?

Olga is a wonderful example of the 'Investigator' because she has a logical approach and enjoys working with others, especially her PhD students, in order to solve problems. She also fits the 'Explorer' type because she's naturally inquisitive and good at experimenting to find out new knowledge. Finally, as a 'Developer', Olga is great at understanding the needs of others, such as her PhD students, and helping them reach their goals. Olga thinks the 'People Like Me' quiz is generally quite useful at helping young people gain some clarity on their career direction.