



A Palmer Quad



- Weekly Dr Bike sessions take place on Wednesdays 12:00 - 14:00 where free safety checks and fixes by mechanics are done where possible, only charging for parts that are needed!
- Reading Students Union is where you can get involved by joining a society, volunteering and more.

B Edith Morley



- The university is committed to becoming Net Zero Carbon by 2030.
- Carbon emissions have been reduced by more than 60% since 2009.
- Installation of 3805 solar panels across the entire university.
- On Whiteknights Campus alone, a total of 998 kWp is generated through solar energy. This is predicted to generate 395,482 kWh electricity each year, saving £134,000 (at 2022/23 prices) and 91 tCO₂ annually, the equivalent of removing the electricity consumption of circa 136 houses from the grid.
- Energy Advice Service launched by Reading Students Union and is designed to help students living in private rented accommodation use energy more efficiently. By doing so, students can reduce energy costs and minimise energy waste, contributing to more sustainable living.



C Library

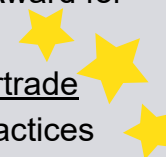
- Gumdrop bins are a way to dispose of gum in an environmentally friendly way as the gum collected is recycled to make new products such as pens, cups, trainers etc.

- The most secure cycle shelters on campus which include a stronger design, accessible cycle spaces, upgraded repair facilities, and a safer environment.
- We are dedicated to embedding the Waste Hierarchy into our day-to-day operations, so we work proactively to reduce, re-use, recycle and recover materials.
- Total day-to-day waste produced in 2024/25 was 39.1kg per person, which was a 36% reduction compared to 2015/16.
- 63% of waste was sent for recycling in 2024/25.
- Less than 1% of waste is sent to landfill.



D Co op

- 3 star status in the Fairtrade University and College Award for its support of ethical and sustainable practices.
- Colleagues and students are welcome to join our Fairtrade Steering Group, which works to promote Fairtrade practices and bring about positive change at the University.
- All University Catering Outlets on Campus offer Fairtrade teas and coffees.
- Where possible, Fairtrade products are available for sale in all of our University and Student Union Catering Outlets.



E Energy Centre

- The Energy Centre replaced a 1960s steam boiler house.
- It feeds 17 buildings via ~3.6km of LTHW district heating network of which most are listed here: AMS, Knight, Palmer, Edith Morley, Library, WK House, Allen Lab, URS, Wager, JJ Thomson, Maths & IT, Chemistry, Miller, Polly Vacher, Harry Nursten.



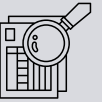
F Harris Gardens

- The University's main Whiteknights campus is set in approximately 134 hectares of parkland which offers a superb mix of habitats for wildlife including formal gardens, managed hay meadows, woodland, wood pasture and a series of lakes.
- We are proud to have won 15 consecutive Green Flag awards, recognising the campus as one of Britain's top green spaces.
- Over 2000 species have been recorded in this suburban parkland, with approximately 40% of Whiteknights campus being managed primarily for biodiversity.
- The 2025 BioBlitz saw the University of Reading place 3rd in the challenge, recording 1,334 species, including 640 plant species.



I Atmospheric Observatory

- Been making weather observations at Reading since 1901.
- Today there is over a century of unbroken daily records, including temperature and rainfall.
- Public tours are available every summer to understand how weather measurements are made, and have been made for over 100 years.
- Most of the instruments today are fully automatic, and information is logged by computer every second, every day.



G H Friends Bridge / Whiteknights Lake

- Whiteknights Lake is believed to have been created in the mid-17th century by damming the natural springs which occur in the area.
- The lake was further enhanced by the Marquis of Blandford and is now approximately 5.85 hectares in size.
- Due to safety concerns and to provide more opportunities for "wilding" a new strategy of minimal intervention has been implemented since 2020.
- Overwintering ducks and gulls are a main feature of the lake during the autumn and spring terms.
- Species to look out for include Shovelers, Tufted Duck, along with occasional Pochards.
- A large flock of gulls winters on campus, dividing their time between resting on the lake and feeding on the playing fields.

J Meadow Bee Pollinator

- Selected areas of short grass on campus are now being left uncut for longer through the spring and summer to provide habitat for bees, hoverflies and many other groups of flower-visiting insect.
- Some are left uncut specifically to protect flowering Bee Orchids, which can be seen in grass verges near the Hopkins and RSSL buildings.
- Short grass can provide valuable habitat for pollinators too as regular cuts trigger repeated flowering cycles, and short swards tend to have more bare patches which are ideal nesting habitat for solitary bees.
- The best overall approach is to provide habitat heterogeneity, boosting the total number of plant and insect species present on campus.

