

## Use of campus paths and roads: a code of behaviour

Our three campuses, Whiteknights, London Road and Greenlands, are attractive campus environments where we want staff, students and visitors to feel welcome and safe. In support of our sustainable transport policy we encourage cycling, walking and use of public transport to and from our campuses wherever possible. This means that our campuses are shared by pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles. To keep everyone safe, please be considerate towards other road and path users, and follow the simple guidance below about behaviour on campus, however you are travelling:

All campus users should:

**Be aware of other campus users and alert to your surroundings**

**Make sure you can be seen and/or heard**

**Watch your speed**

**Keep left on roads and paths, allow room for overtaking**

**Share the space and stay safe**

### Who may go where?

- **When driving**, you must stick to roads and not drive in pedestrianised areas unless the University has given specific approval.
- **When walking**, keep to footpaths and designated walkways and where possible avoid walking in the road. Do not walk in areas where pedestrians are prohibited - look out for the signs. As a pedestrian, you have priority over cyclists on footpaths, but be aware that a cyclist may be approaching from behind or in front of you.
- **When cycling**, you are allowed to ride on footpaths, except where there is an immediate alternative road route, or where cycling is specifically prohibited<sup>1</sup>. Please note that pedestrians have priority on all footpaths.
- **If you are visiting**, please note that all University grounds are private, except for the Whiteknights campus right of way for pedestrians along the public footpath from Shinfield Road to Whiteknights Road via Chancellor's Way, Friends Bridge and Earley Gate. You are welcome to visit but members of the public are asked to note that access to campuses may be restricted or withdrawn at any time.

### When driving a vehicle on campus you should:

- Not drive in pedestrianised areas unless the University has given specific approval.
- Obey all road safety signs, including speed restrictions and no entry signs.
- Not use any mobile phone (hand held or hands free) whilst driving, in accordance with University policy.

- Only park in designated car parking spaces and obey all parking restrictions. Please do not block access to buildings or footpaths or park on the grass.
- Approach road junctions, crossings and areas with limited visibility with caution, always assume that someone or something may appear unexpectedly – in particular on the bus route through the Whiteknights campus.

### **When cycling<sup>ii</sup> on campus you should:**

- Give way to pedestrians on footpaths, always be prepared to slow down, stop or dismount, especially in busy or restricted areas.
- Drop your pace in good time and let people know you are approaching by ringing a bell or politely calling out before waiting to pass slowly.
- Cycle on the left, including on paths where possible. Overtake on the right.
- Take care near road junctions and crossings, as other road users might not see you.
- Make sure you are visible to other road users e.g. by wearing light coloured or bright clothing.
- Use lights during hours of darkness so that you can see and be seen. This is required by UK law.
- Obey road safety signs, including one way and no entry signs.
- Not use mobile phones when cycling, to avoid distractions and remain in full control of your bike.
- Not lock bicycles anywhere they will cause an obstruction, particularly on access routes for disabled people.
- Use a good quality lock to secure your bike to a cycle stand, so that the University does not become an attractive place for thieves<sup>iii</sup>.

### **When walking on campus you should:**

- Keep to footpaths and designated walkway, avoid walking in the road where possible. Do not walk on roadways where pedestrians are prohibited – look for the 'no pedestrian' signs.
- Be alert to cyclists, who are allowed to ride on footpaths. As a pedestrian you have priority, but it helps if you walk on the left hand side of a path, leaving room for a cyclist to overtake on the right.
- Before you step into the road, look both ways first. Approach road junctions, crossings and areas with limited visibility with caution, always assume that someone or something may appear unexpectedly.
- Try to avoid wearing headphones or using a mobile phone for texting/reading when walking around as this makes you less alert to your surroundings.
- Make sure you are visible to other road users e.g. by wearing light coloured or bright clothing, especially when it's dark.

## Personal safety at night

Our campuses are safe places, with a 24 hour security team on each campus. However we recognise that some staff or students may feel vulnerable when walking round campus at night. You can contribute to your own safety by:

- Not walking alone at night.
- Sticking to well-lit routes.
- Using the Security Services 'Chaperone Service' – see Security Services web site for details.
- Read the Security Services guide on 'Staying Safe' <sup>iv</sup>.

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<sup>i</sup> Cycling is prohibited in the cloisters at London Road.

<sup>ii</sup> If you are interested in a course to improve your cycling skills please email [travel@reading.ac.uk](mailto:travel@reading.ac.uk).

<sup>iii</sup> Further security advice for cyclists is available from Security Services, see <http://www.reading.ac.uk/security-services/>

<sup>iv</sup> Downloadable from the Security Services web site