I’m going to an open day, how do I get to the University?

By rail?
There are many direct rail services that link Reading to the rest of the country, including a 23-minute journey into London. Visit www.nationalrail.co.uk for details. For many open days we arrange free bus travel to and from Reading station (see the ‘by bus’ information below for details). The stop for buses to the University is right outside the station. You can also purchase Plusbus which gives you unlimited bus travel on most buses when bought with your train ticket. Visit www.plusbus.info.

By bus?
There are three bus services that travel directly onto the Whiteknights campus, and indirectly to London Road campus, from Reading station – the 20, 20a and 21. These services are every seven minutes during the day and for many open days we arrange free bus travel to and from Reading station. You will need to have a travel token which you can apply for online when you book your place at the open day. We also have a special short-hop bus fare of only £1.20 between our Whiteknights and London Road campuses.

Bus services 9 and 19 also go to the edge of the main Whiteknights campus, and service 17 travels from Reading town centre close to the Earley Gate side of the Whiteknights campus 24 hours a day. For more information about bus fares and timetables, visit www.reading-buses.co.uk/university.

By foot/bicycle?
Take a look at www.reading.ac.uk/about-findwalk.aspx for detailed directions for walking or cycling to the different campuses. You can also download campus maps from here to help you find your way.

By car?
Like many universities, parking at Reading campuses is severely restricted. If you require a disabled parking space please email reception@reading.ac.uk. All other visitors are advised to use the town centre car parks and local park and ride schemes, details of which can be found at www.reading-travelinfo.co.uk.

By air?
There is a direct train service between Gatwick Airport and Reading station and a frequent RailAir bus service between Heathrow Airport and Reading station. Visit www.nationalrail.co.uk or www.railair.com.
When I come to university can I bring my car?

Car parking spaces are very limited at the University, and access is restricted to those with a permit. You are unlikely to qualify for a student permit unless you have extenuating circumstances, such as mobility issues or responsibilities as a carer. Factors which will be considered in determining if a parking permit may be granted are listed in the table at the bottom of this page.

What about in halls?

It’s a similar situation here, students can apply for a halls permit (which only permits parking at your hall – not on campus) but these are limited to those with extenuating circumstances.

Can I just park on surrounding roads?

We like to maintain a good relationship with our neighbours, and how you park your car can impact people’s attitude and perception of the University staff, students and visitors.

If you do decide to travel to the University and park off-site, please ensure that you park legally and are aware of any parking restrictions.
- Don’t park on junctions.
- Don’t block driveways or dropped kerbs.
- Don’t park in areas where there is limited space available for residents.
- Be aware that many meters restrict you to two hours’ parking.

So how do I travel around then?

Due to the proximity of the halls to the campuses, the majority of students either walk or cycle to the University.

There are over 1,100 cycle racks on campus and secure compounds at halls so you can feel comfortable about bringing your bike to University from home.

The buses, particularly the 20 and 21, travel to and from town every seven minutes on a weekday. They also continue to the Asda supermarket in the opposite direction. Reading Buses offer discounted travel for students as well as staff, you can purchase a SimplyUni card for £99 for a 10-week term, or £297 for the whole academic year (2012-2013 prices). These are valid on bus journeys across the whole of Reading so can provide great savings.

There are also group travel tickets – ‘fourgotogather’ and discounted travel when you buy 10 single trips in advance with an ‘Easysaver10’ ticket. See www.reading-buses.co.uk/fares for details.

And if I want to go further afield?

Reading train station has excellent links to the rest of the country – see www.nationalrail.co.uk. You can purchase a student railcard which saves you up to 1/3 off rail fares. Coaches are another popular option, see www.nationalexpress.co.uk.

If you are over 19, you can join the University Car Club to hire a car from only £5.50 an hour. This includes insurance, tax, maintenance, the London Congestion Charge and fuel for the first 20 miles. Provided by Hertz on Demand, when you become a member they will give you an access card so you can book and drive either our Fiat 500 or our Alfa Romeo Mito. They are perfect for big trips to the shops or that impromptu day out.

Sharing your journey

The University has set up a car sharing scheme to reduce the number of single-occupancy cars on the road and on campus. It is very handy for those who need a lift from people heading in the same direction. Register your route on www.rucarsharing.com and the system will search for a match. The scheme will also match people who wish to travel by taxi, bicycle or walk the same route.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualifying information</th>
<th>Evidence required</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Carer/guardian responsibilities</strong> Students who are parents and/or appointed carers/guardians for children under the age of 12</td>
<td>Letter (printed on headed paper, dated within last six months) from child’s school/nursery, birth certificate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students who are appointed carers for an immediate family member who has a temporary/permanent illness or disability for which the student would need to travel home regularly to provide care</td>
<td>Current medical evidence or carer’s allowance documents signed by a medical professional (GP or specialist) printed on headed paper, dated within the last 12 months confirming the ill/disabled family member’s relationship to the student and the illness/disability of the family member</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Disability causing current mobility issues</strong> Students with a condition or disability that will have a long term effect (at least 12 months) which results in the student requiring on campus car parking</td>
<td>Appropriate medical evidence (printed on headed paper, signed by a medical professional, dated within last six months)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Temporary incapacity (Permits issued for students with temporary incapacity will be issued on a termly basis and will be reviewed for the term ahead)</strong> Students who have sustained an injury and are unable to use other forms of transport to campus</td>
<td>Appropriate medical evidence (printed on headed paper, signed by a medical professional, dated within last three months)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Course related requirements</strong> Students who require a vehicle to bring heavy equipment or large quantities of samples on campus throughout the year</td>
<td>Supporting letter from School Director of Teaching &amp; Learning (printed on headed paper, dated within last four weeks)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students who require a vehicle because of out-of-hours travel time (early mornings or late evenings) throughout the year</td>
<td>As above plus current course timetable</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Lack of access by public transport</strong> Term-time address outside of the core urban area that cannot be reasonably reached by public transport</td>
<td>Proof of current term-time addresses (rental agreement, utility bills, etc.)</td>
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