Delivering benefit to the region

The University of Reading has been part of the local region for over a century. Since our foundations in 1892, we have grown into a truly international university that continues to play a key role in the region.

Cultural and educational

• 60,000 people attend University public lectures, events or visit one of our three museums every year
• We provide speakers off-campus working with groups such as the British Science Association to run Café Scientifique sessions in the town

Economic

• The University contributes £650 million to the local economy each year. That is £1.78 million every day
• The annual value of University contracts with local suppliers is £60 million
• Our students spend £35 million per annum on local housing

Provider of key services

• We provide key educational services such as part time and continuing professional development courses for business and the local community
• Our Institute of Education trains hundreds of teachers each year, many of whom go on to teach in the region’s schools

Recreational

• The University SportsPark is open to the public. It boasts modern indoor and outdoor facilities including a fitness studio, a large multi-purpose sports hall, squash courts and outdoor sports pitches
• The 130 hectare Whiteknights campus has meadowland, woodland, lawns, playing fields and a lake available for all to enjoy. The main woodland area, The Wilderness, is a Wildlife Heritage Site

19,000 Reading graduates live in the local area

A fifth of our graduates stay in the Reading area to pursue their careers, ensuring the skills they have developed here bring benefits to the local economy and society. Our students also bring a huge economic benefit to the local economy, spending £53 million off-campus each year.

4,000 student volunteers have helped in local schools

The University’s Student Tutoring Scheme has placed students alongside teachers to give help and act as positive role models to children for over 20 years.

Yasemin Demiroglu (above) is studying for an MSc in Marketing and International Management at Henley Business School at the University of Reading. Originally from Turkey, she volunteers every week to help pupils in a local school with maths.

2,000 hours of unpaid voluntary work

Our students give up a huge amount of their time each year to benefit the local community.

200 of our law students take part in pro-bono work each year which benefits the local community. Law students go into local schools to bring aspects of law and the legal system to school children through interactive sessions in the University’s Street Law scheme. They also train as advisors at the local Citizens Advice Bureau.