

YOUR END OF TERM NEWSLETTER



Here is your end of term newsletter. We hope you're all staying safe and healthy. Stay up to date with what's going on by regularly checking the [Me@Reading](#) portal.

BLACK LIVES MATTER



We have seen in the news and social media about the brutal murder of George Floyd, protests around the world, and the Black Lives Matter movement coming to the forefront. This goes much deeper than the recent news stories, many people face racism as part of their everyday life, it is this injustice that we need to stand up to, we need to amplify black, Asian, and minority ethnic voices and make a real change.

Our University community is made up of a diverse range of cultures and backgrounds, and it is not enough that we keep quiet. We must learn, talk, ask questions, and do something about it.

The Vice-Chancellor released a statement about Black Lives Matters, and the steps that the University of Reading will take going forward, you can read about this [in full here](#), and the response from the [BAME staff network](#).

To read our blog on Black Lives Matter in full, [click here](#).



All of our existing support and electronic resources will continue to be available and delivered to you online over the summer vacation. This means that you can still:

- Access UoR online reading lists via [Blackboard](#)
- Consult our [online subject guides](#) for details of resources available for your subject
- Contact your [Academic Liaison Librarian](#) for help via Teams, email, or [book a one-to-one appointment](#)
- Get one-to-one advice and support from our [Study Advisors](#) via Teams, phone, or email and check out their online [video tutorials and study guides](#)
- Get help with any maths and stats-related problems from the [Maths Support team](#) who can also provide one-to-one advice and support online or take a look at their [video tutorials and worksheets](#). To request one-to-one help email mathssupport@reading.ac.uk
- Check your [Library account](#) online
- Ask any questions about our collections and services via library@reading.ac.uk

We will renew all books for the entire summer vacation, so **do not worry** as you will not have anything overdue or running up fines. All items will be due

on 30 September 2020. If you have already returned items via our Book Drop be assured they will be removed from your Library account as soon as we are able to get back in the building to process them.

We are investigating whether we can accept postal returns of books over the summer and will provide more information if we are able to do so.

Coming soon: click and collect service for print books. For those of you writing dissertations, we understand accessing materials is very important and we are working to provide a click and collect service for you to request items from our shelves. In the meantime, you can still ask your [Academic Liaison Librarians](#) whether they can source an alternative option for you.

Any updates on access to the books or changes to any services will be publicised on our [web site](#), and [Library blog](#) so keep an eye out for news.

In the meantime, we hope the summer break will be a healthy and happy one for you all. We look forward to welcoming returning students in the autumn.



Moving out of private rented accommodation

We know it is a very challenging time to be moving out of your private student housing - and potentially moving into a new property. The University

and RUSU have prepared online advice and information to help you, which you can find on [RUSU's advice pages](#). We have prepared a range of FAQs which address your concerns, including what to do if you or a housemate is shielding, expectations around deep cleaning, issues with contracts and advice for international students.

We understand it is tough not being able to celebrate with your friends in the usual way, but please do consider your neighbours who have been in strict lock-down and please do use the many local recycling banks in your area when disposing of unwanted items.



The University of Reading community is united in efforts to tackle the coronavirus crisis. The University has put its skills and facilities to work, and many students, staff and alumni are working or volunteering to help the NHS and wider society as we deal with the virus and its consequences.

Last week, the University launched [a new volunteering and fundraising campaign](#), asking supporters to help fund scientific research into improving COVID-19 home testing. Hundreds of people have already donated cash to support the project, or volunteered to take part in trials. The University has also launched [a student volunteering scheme](#), matching the skills of students with local community groups and charities who need help with administration or communications support. And University students and staff have continued to volunteer in hospitals and test centres.

Find out more about how #WeAreTogether to tackle COVID-19: [visit our website](#).



As the summer term ends, we want to make you aware of all the services that are still available to you now, and over the coming months, ensuring you have all the support you need.

We have been working at updating our [Wellbeing pages](#) on Essentials so it is easy to find contacts and information, both inside and outside of the University, you can find this page by [clicking here](#).

At present we are still working remotely, but our services are open to you if you feel like you might need them, some of these include:

- **The Student Welfare Team**
- **The Counselling and Wellbeing Team**
- **Big White Wall**
- **Support our Students**

RUSU have recently released a [Welfare Directory](#) which also features on the Wellbeing page, this provides you contact details for a variety of organisations and support within, and external to, the University of Reading.

It is important to know that our services are still open to you if you need them, we hope that this means you can find the help and support you need quickly.



We recognise that the Covid19 pandemic has affected many students' part-time work opportunities and plans to earn money over the summer.

The Careers team have put together a series of short screencasts covering the types of jobs available and in demand at the moment and paid internships where you're [directly employed](#); and opportunities in the [gig economy, freelance or self-employed](#). We've created a separate [screencast for international students](#), whose options may vary depending on their visa. The focus of these is different from our [resources for finding graduate jobs](#).

Whatever your situation, the Careers team are here to support you with finding opportunities, making applications and preparing for interviews. Remember - you can access [individual career coaching](#) throughout the vacation, and can catch up with any workshops or webinars you've missed on our [Careers 24/7 Blackboard site](#).



We want students to feel financially prepared in all parts of your studies. BlackBullion is hosting an exclusive webinar series for students: "Recession-proof: Financial wellbeing for economic downturns". The sessions are on

take place from 3:00pm to 3:45pm with founder and financial expert Vivi Friedgut. [Register for free.](#)

Virtual events schedule:

Thursday 11 June: Building financial resilience

Thursday 18 June: Developing financial flexibility

Thursday 25 June: Practical steps for turbulent times

If you are worried about potential impacts on your finances from coronavirus get in touch with the Student Financial Support team at studentfunding@reading.ac.uk.



It might be the end of the term; however, that doesn't mean our services stop, we are here if you need to speak to us on a range of topics. You can still contact our experts remotely:

Student Welfare Team

The team are offering continued support by telephone or video call for any personal difficulties you may be feeling. Please [contact them by email](#) to arrange an appointment.

Counselling & Wellbeing

The University of Reading [Counselling and Wellbeing Team](#) are offering telephone and video counselling, wellbeing and mental health support, free

of charge to all UoR students.

Academic Tutors

You can continue to contact your [Academic Tutor](#) or supervisor by email.

Support Centres

Please use the online [Ask A Question](#) service for any Support Centre enquiries and the team will get back to you as quickly as possible.

Careers

The Careers and Placements team have changed all their student-facing services to a fully digital service, operating remotely 9 am-5 pm, Monday to Friday. You can reach the team by emailing careers@reading.ac.uk or calling 0118 378 8359 and leaving a message – these are picked up daily.

Student Financial Support

To contact the team students should send an email to studentfunding@reading.ac.uk and a member of the team will respond, or if needed, can arrange to call the student to discuss the issues raised.

International Student Advisory Team

For Immigration or Home Office Compliance enquiries, please email immigration@reading.ac.uk and for general enquiries, please email Int.Adv@reading.ac.uk. A member of the team will respond to the email or if needed, can arrange to call you to discuss the issues raised.

Disability Advisory Service (DAS)

If you need to contact DAS, please email disability@reading.ac.uk in the first instance (or an individual member of staff for ongoing issues).

We hope you have a happy and healthy summer!

