



Welcome from
**Professor Robert Van De Noort,
Vice-Chancellor and Dr Caroline Baylon,
Pro-Vice-Chancellor, International**

Hello and welcome to the University of Reading, a truly international community. For almost 100 years, the University has been innovating, pioneering, pushing academic boundaries and leading social change. This would not have been possible without the contributions made by international students, such as yourself. With campuses in Africa, Asia and Europe, the University of Reading prides itself on bringing bright minds together from all corners of the globe.

WELCOME

Become part of an international community of
more than _____ from
_____ We want to welcome you
to our global university.

SETTLING INTO LIFE IN THE UK

"Studying at Reading has been an enriching journey. Each moment, be it late-night studying at the library or laughter with friends, has become unforgettable. It has become my home away from home, a place where I've built lifelong friendships. As I

"One of my most exciting experiences was with the HOST UK program, where I was matched with a family in

season was a welcoming experience and a great opportunity to immerse myself in British culture and traditions while forming meaningful connections. Participating in the HOST UK program

Housing and living arrangements

Tips for student house-sharing

Cultural adjustment

from what you are familiar with. It is impossible to summarise a culture into a few words but here are some handy tips on British culture:

- **Humour** is quite a large part of British culture, especially at universities. However, not all jokes are funny. There are lots of non-alcoholic activities to get involved with.
- **Small talk** is a new language! It often involves sarcasm and friendly teasing.
- **Time** upsets you, it is important to mention this at the time or in a meeting.
- **Directness** member of staff for **problems** and so they may hint at issues rather than addressing them directly.
- **Politeness** in the UK. It is polite to say please and thank you.
- **Apologising** by saying sorry. Hold doors open for people.
- **Queues** respect queues (lines) – don't try to push in or jump the queue.

- **Sexuality** The rainbow flag is celebrated across the UK. You will see rainbow lanyards and people being open about their sexuality. In the UK, it is important to be open-minded and accepting of others.
- **Payment** and prefer card payment, especially in cities.
- **Bank holidays** There are many bank holidays throughout the year (including the University close for a day). Try the **Bank Holiday Calendar** for a calendar of the popular events during a year in the UK.

Weather in the UK

The weather here is very erratic meaning we need to be prepared for changes throughout the day. It can be very hot in the summer and very cold in the winter.

Check the weather forecast in the morning. You will need to bring an umbrella and a warm winter coat for the winter months.

Studying in the UK

Academic

Higher Education. Always give credit to the sources of your research.

For help with referencing, visit your Academic Liaison Librarians in the

International section of the Library website. They also have a dedicated section for international students.

The Academic English Programme (AEP) can help you develop your academic language and

attend writing workshops, webinars and one-to-one consultations, it is free to all fee-paying international students at the University.

Would

English in a relaxed and friendly

Wednesdays from 13:00–14:00.

along! Online conversation cafes are also available. For more information contact

SUPPORTING YOU TO SUCCEED



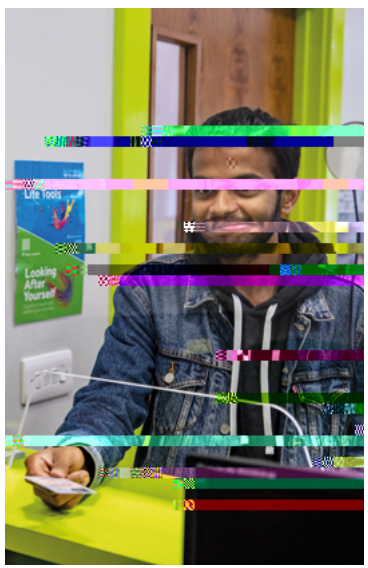
I'm here to support you

time here at Reading. If you need help with anything, from

getting used to UK culture, money worries or anything else, please get in touch or come and see me during my student appointment times.

Feel free to contact me at

[Student Advisory Team page on Essentials.](#)



Specialist support for international students

The [International Student Support Team](#) is dedicated to supporting international students and can help with visa and immigration queries, as well as any questions or concerns related to your experience at Reading.

Visa conditions and what they mean

your visa expiry date and that you understand its conditions. Please read the University's Institutional

understand something.

The UK's Immigration Rules can be complicated and confusing, so the

[International Student Support Team](#) is here to help. We are the only team on campus who can provide you with immigration and visa related advice and we have loads of guidance online.

These are some of the most common visa-related areas queries we receive:

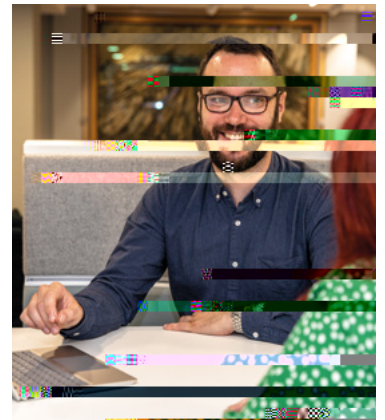
– your visa

periods when you are expected to be on campus engaging with your programme. For all students, this is semester 1 and semester 2.



Careers and working





University services

Support Centre

questions, help or advice throughout your time at University. Visit

[details](#) and opening times

International Advisory Team

Email:

Halls Hotline

Campus Security