

SHAPING THE FUTURE

— Partnerships in the —
Health and Life Sciences



University of
Reading



The University of Reading is committed to advancing scientific discovery in health and life sciences. The School of Biological Sciences, along with the School of Chemistry, Food & Pharmacy and the School of Psychology & Clinical Language Sciences, is home to world-class academics, advanced facilities and a vibrant community of researchers.

We are an engaged university, working beyond our campus with business and our community to deliver the full impact of quality education and research. For businesses in the health and life sciences sector, collaboration with the University offers a unique opportunity to access pioneering research, tap into emerging talent and work together to deliver solutions with global impact.

This brochure highlights some of the ways that we work in partnership with the health and life sciences sector in the Thames Valley region and beyond. I hope that you will see the benefits of working with us to help your business, whether that's providing access to expertise and facilities or helping to develop the future workforce.

Professor Phil Dash

Head of the School of Biological Sciences

reading.ac.uk/biologicalsciences

Health and Life Sciences in numbers



200+

academics in health and life sciences



1,000+

career ready health and life sciences graduates every year



£50 million+

invested in facilities¹



£2.26 million

spent on research projects with NHS partners³



6,465

young people received a HealthReach session²



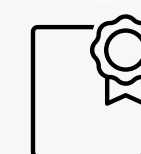
10

university accredited hospital departments



£21.5 million

in health and life sciences research grants¹



94%

of programmes have or are in the process of receiving accreditation from professional bodies

1. in the last 5-year period

2. in the last year. HealthReach is our mobile outreach programme improving access to health and life science careers and courses.

3. across 75 Collaboration Innovation Fund projects and joint PhD studentships

Working with the NHS

From an aging population to advances in medical technology, collaboration between academia and the NHS has never been more vital. The University of Reading and the Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust have forged a dynamic strategic partnership, combining academic expertise with frontline healthcare experience to drive innovation and improve healthcare outcomes.

This partnership has led to:

- The formation of the Health Innovation Partnership (HIP), a programme of collaborative research and education innovation funding
- The creation of the Health Data Institute to employ data science to improve patient care
- Joint posts supporting university research and teaching activities
- Development of state-of-the-art facilities on campus including a shared Clinical Simulation Training Suite
- The move of the Trust's Pathology Services department to the university campus, providing better facilities and enabling closer collaboration
- Co-development and delivery of the curricula, such as the Physician Associate and Biomedical Science courses
- The establishment of 10 University Accredited Departments within the Trust
- Coordinated student placements across the Trust.

By leveraging the expertise within both institutions, the collaboration continues to shape the future of healthcare, developing the next generation of skilled professionals and driving forward essential medical breakthroughs.





Developing your future work force

With emerging challenges, new technologies and ever-changing consumer needs, academic institutions play a pivotal role in ensuring that education and training align with real-world demands. By working closely with industrial partners, we can not only strengthen the talent pipeline, but also drive innovation, ensuring a workforce that is fit for purpose and ready to meet the challenges of the future.

Our current partnerships with industry have resulted in:

- Successful placements, including year-long internships, that have provided essential experience for students and an opportunity for employers to identify future talent

- Collaborative curriculum development that has led to embedding entrepreneurial and innovation skills throughout our programmes and the launch of new programmes that are focussed on industry needs
- Guest lectures and mentoring from industry professionals; providing students with an insight into current industry practices and ensuring that students are better prepared for the workplace
- Highly employable graduates – 96% of University of Reading Health and Life Science Graduates are in work or further study 18 months after graduation, and 91% reported being in 'positive destinations' *.

We recognise the importance of these partnerships and welcome further industry involvement, ranging from shaping our curricula to providing expert advice – together, we can bridge the skills gap and create a sustainable workforce.

*Data from all graduates from the schools of Biological sciences, Chemistry, Food and Pharmacy and Psychology & Clinical language Sciences. 'Positive destinations' refers to graduate level work'



A diverse range of innovative programmes:

Biomedical Science	Biotechnology	Neuroscience
Medical Science	Pharmaceutical Chemistry	Pharmacy
Biochemistry	Pharmacology	Speech and Language Therapy
Microbiology	Nutrition	Physician Associate
Biomedical Engineering	Psychology	Dietetics

Teaming up

with industry to prepare graduates for health biotechnology careers

MSc Biotechnology

Our close relationship and ongoing dialogue with industry have allowed us to understand and evaluate its needs and develop an innovative programme that equips graduates with both hands-on laboratory expertise and a deep understanding of the biotech industry, from regulatory frameworks to business operations. Designed in collaboration with industry leaders, this programme ensures that graduates are not only technically proficient but also ready to navigate the complex biotech landscape with confidence.

We are committed to keeping our programmes up-to-date and relevant for our students. We actively seek collaborations with industry partners to ensure our programmes evolve with their changing needs. If you are interested in this programme or if there is a skills gap within your sector that we can help address, please contact us.

Key Facts

- Co-developed with industry-leaders including Lonza, Amgen and Gilead
- Develops industry-relevant skills and knowledge, with a focus on employability
- Covers both science and business with opportunities for 3-month research or industrial placement experience
- Teaching delivered by academics from the School of Biological Sciences, Henley Business School and industry professionals.

“ We are thrilled to collaborate with the University of Reading on this innovative master’s programme. This partnership will create a unique opportunity for students and a pipeline of future Lonza employees. ”

Atul Mohindra
Head of R&D Biologics, Lonza

Modules



Commercial Biotechnology

Bringing drugs to market – the drug development process, regulatory approval, health economics, entrepreneurship, intellectual property



Cell and Gene Therapies

Stem cells, CAR-T cells, mRNA vaccines



Precision Medicine

Oncology focus with genomics, biomarker discovery, antibody-based therapies and small molecule inhibitors



Medical Technologies

Wearable devices, drug delivery and point of care diagnostic technology



AI in Biopharma

Health informatics, overview of machine learning and use of AI in drug discovery and diagnostics



Industrial Placement or Research Project

Students can choose to interview for 3-month placement offered by Industrial Partners or undertake a research project

Supporting your business

The university is a rich source of knowledge, with cutting-edge research and state-of-the-art facilities, ready to offer invaluable support to businesses. Whether through expert consultation, collaborative research, joint studentships and/or access to advanced facilities, we can help businesses gain fresh insights, drive innovation and stay ahead in a competitive market.

Facilities available to industry range from our Chemical Analysis Facility (CAF) and state-of-the-art BioResource Unit (BRU) to clinical simulation rooms and MRI.

Set in the heart of Thames Valley, the university campus and Thames Valley Science Park are home to multiple life science businesses from start-ups to larger organisations.

Our academics regularly provide expert advice and consultation to support businesses across the health and life sciences.

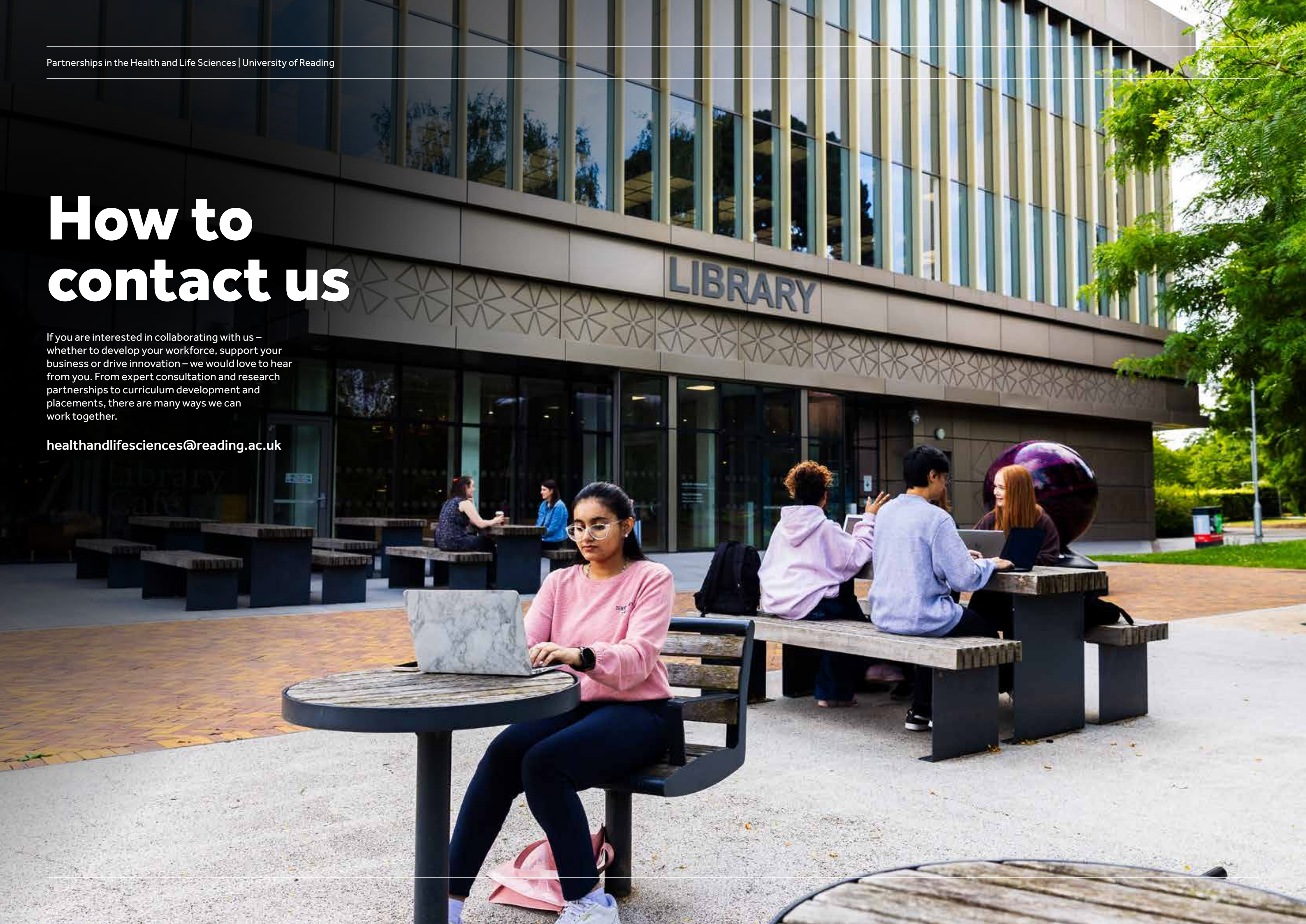
Successful funded Knowledge Transfer Partnerships and Management Knowledge Transfer Partnerships delivered through our Knowledge Exchange and External Partnerships Team.



How to contact us

If you are interested in collaborating with us – whether to develop your workforce, support your business or drive innovation – we would love to hear from you. From expert consultation and research partnerships to curriculum development and placements, there are many ways we can work together.

healthandlifesciences@reading.ac.uk



Health and Life Sciences

i For more information, please contact:

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