

UNIVERSITY HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY STATEMENT OF INTENT

The University of Reading recognises its duty to provide a safe place of work and a healthy working environment. We believe that excellence in the management of health and safety is a fundamental part of effective and efficient management, in support of academic excellence and innovation. We aim to:

- Comply with all relevant health and safety legislation and strive to exceed minimum legal standards where practicable.
- Promote a positive health and safety culture across the University, encouraging openness, accountability, and continuous improvement.
- Ensure that health and safety responsibilities are clearly defined, understood, and implemented at all levels of the organisation.
- Identify and manage risks proactively through robust planning, risk assessment, and control measures embedded in all University activities.
- Provide appropriate resources, training, and competent advice to support effective health and safety management.
- Prevent incidents, including accidents, near misses, injury or ill health, arising from the activities of the University, and provide effective emergency response.
- Consult and communicate effectively on health and safety with staff, students and others who may share our facilities or activities

The Vice-Chancellor holds ultimate responsibility for health and safety within the University and delegates operational oversight to senior leadership, supported by the University Health and Safety Committee, Heads of Schools and Directorates with the assistance of professional advisers.

All members of the University community share a responsibility to uphold this policy, follow safety procedures, contribute to the continuous improvement of health and safety standards and report concerns promptly.

This policy statement will be formally reviewed annually by the University Health and Safety Committee, or sooner if there are significant changes in legislation, organisational structure, or strategic direction.

The corporate organisation and management arrangements that support this policy commitment are given in a series of policies and safety codes of practice published on the University web site here <https://www.reading.ac.uk/health-safety-services/policies-and-procedures>

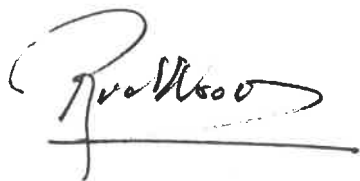
All health or safety incidents or near misses can be reported by any member of staff, student, visitor or other person here:

<https://www.reading.ac.uk/internal/health-and-safety/IncidentReportingandEmergencyProcedures/IncidentNotification/>

The plan detailing corporate preparedness for major incidents is available here

<https://www.reading.ac.uk/business-continuity/>

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. van de Noort', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Professor Robert Van de Noort

Vice-Chancellor

Date – November 2025