The University of Sheffield

Sheffield gained its Royal Charter to open as a University in 1905. When it first opened the University had only 363 students and 71 members of staff. We now have 25,000 students and 5,500 staff based in buildings on over a mile long stretch of campus. The University of Sheffield is recognised as being one of the original ‘redbrick’ institutions. It is a member of the prestigious Russell Group, which is comprised of 24 major research-led UK Universities. The University is made up of 50 academic departments which are grouped into five faculties: Arts & Humanities; Engineering; Medicine, Dentistry & Health; Science; and Social Sciences.

We are rated 6th in the world in the 2014 QS World University Rankings, up two places from 2013. The University is ranked 18th in the UK, 50th in Europe and 121st in the world according to the 2014-15 Times Higher Education World University Rankings.

The 2014 Research Excellence Framework confirmed our place as a world-leading university. The results demonstrated our research excellence across a range of disciplines, putting us in the top 10 per cent of all UK universities.

1. The Students' Union

The Students’ Union (SU) is run by students for students. The award-winning SU continues to provide students with state-of-the-art facilities following the final phase of a £20 million refurbishment, including places to eat and drink, an amphitheatre styled space for special events within the new Octagon Piazza, as well as more social and study spaces open for longer hours. The work has also brought the building up-to-date with modern efficiency standards, radically reducing annual energy consumption and the building’s carbon footprint.

Why not have a look round yourself?

2. The Octagon Centre

This multi-purpose venue is an internationally-recognised conference centre and music venue, as well as being used for lectures and graduation ceremonies.

3. Firth Court

Firth Court was opened in 1905. It is currently home to the Department of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology. Visitors are welcome to look around the foyer, quad and first floor at some of the historic features, but please be aware that access may be restricted dependent on events taking place. For further information, please call in at the Porter’s Lodge located on the left as you enter the building.

4. Alfred Denny Building

Named after Alfred Denny, the first Professor of Biology at Firth College which became the University of Sheffield in 1905. The building is home to the Departments of Animal & Plant Sciences and Biology.

5. Western Bank Library

Primarily used by final year and postgraduate students, Western Bank Library has recently been refurbished and was the main University library until the opening of the Information Commons. The University’s libraries are on a number of sites and hold over 1.3 million printed volumes, as well as an extensive range of high quality electronic resources.

6. The Arts Tower

This Grade II listed building, which previously housed several academic departments before a major refurbishment in 2010/11, is now mainly an administration block, although the School of Architecture still occupies the top floors. At 78m high, the Arts Tower is the tallest University building in the country and was Sheffield’s tallest building until recently. The Arts Tower houses the paternoster lift system which is extremely rare, with less than a dozen known to still be in function. With 38 cars, it is the largest working paternoster in the UK.

7. Dainton and Richard Roberts Building

The Dainton and Richard Roberts Building is home to the Faculty of Sciences. The East Wing was renamed Richard Roberts after the Nobel Prize winning Alumnus.

8. The University Arms

A real ale pub for University staff, students and visitors alike. Serves hearty lunchtime and evening meals.

9. Information Commons

The Information Commons is a £23 million investment from the University of Sheffield to create a state of the art learning centre. It was opened in 2007 and is the first of its kind in the UK. It is a fully integrated learning environment combining both library and IT services, with approximately 100,000 in-demand texts, around 1300 study spaces and over 500 PCs. It is open 24 hours, 7 days a week and has a café. Students benefit from specifically designed group study areas and IT classrooms. There is wireless networking throughout. The building is swipe access only to ensure it is reserved solely for the use of current students.

10. Jessop West

Designed by well-known Berlin architect Sauerbauch Hutton this building provides office, meeting and seminar space for History, English and Modern Languages, as well as exhibition spaces for more general use. It has been designed with features to minimise environmental impact such as green roof spaces and air movement via specially designed windows. Why not take a look at what's on in the Jessop West Foyer?

11. Bioincubator

The Bioincubator is a purpose-built facility for entrepreneurial bioscience. The centre has both the scientific resources and business support that are needed to enable innovative ideas in bioscience to develop into successful businesses.

12. Jessop Building

Previously the Victoria Wing of Sheffield’s Jessop Maternity Hospital, the University has been careful to retain the look and feel of this building which is intrinsically linked with the city. It now houses offices and practice/teaching rooms for the Music Department.

13. St George’s Church

St George’s is an old Church of England church which was built in 1821. It was purchased and converted into a lecture theatre by the University in 1994, following its closure several years earlier. It also provides accommodation for some postgraduate students on the upper level.

14. Sir Frederick Mappin Building

Opened in 1904 this was the first purpose-built University building. It was named after Sir Frederick Mappin, who was one of the key instigators in the creation of the University and the first Pro-Vice Chancellor. He was also a local steelworks owner and MP for Sheffield’s Hallamshire constituency. Originally the home of the Technical School, it now houses the Faculty of Engineering along with the Sir Henry Stephenson and Sir Robert Hadfield Buildings.

15. Regent Court

Regent Court is home to the Departments of Computer Science and Information Studies. The Departments of Economics and Journalism are located next door. Archaeology is just round the corner on West Street.

16. The Soundhouse

This innovative black rubber box building replicates the look of a sound speaker. It is a new development with state of the art practice rooms and recording studios for Music students.

17. Hicks Building

The Hicks Building is home to the Departments of Physics and Astronomy and the School of Mathematics and Statistics.

Welcome to the University of Sheffield

Explore the campus at your own pace with our self-guided tour. We’ve highlighted key points of interest at the University – depending on your schedule today you can opt to visit them all or simply choose to visit the places that interest you the most. If you would like to see specific departments and speak to their staff, please contact them directly prior to your visit or ask how to do this at the Student Services Information Desk in the Students’ Union. To cover all of the stops on the campus map overleaf, we recommend that you allow one hour.
Please note that the self-guided tour is carried out at your own risk. Certain places may not be fully accessible depending on the time of your visit and ongoing development work. We ask that you take care when moving about.

Key
- Location number on map
- Suggested route
- Come and have a look inside to see more
- Cafe
- Restaurant
- University tram stop
- Limited access to the inside areas of building

To city centre
- To Management School, Goodwin Sports Centre and Student Villages

To Medical School

301: Student Skills and Development Centre
301 offers a flexible, modern space with a range of services and activities to support student skills development. These include Academic Skills Workshop Programme, Study Skills Tutorials and SURE: Sheffield Undergraduate Research Experience.

Other Services
The University Health Service offers a full NHS GP service to all University of Sheffield students. The University also offers its own counselling service and disability/dyslexia support service.

Accommodation
For accommodation related enquiries please visit our website: www.sheffield.ac.uk/accommodation

Sport Sheffield
For information and questions about sport in Sheffield please visit our website: www.sport-sheffield.com/home

Transport Links
Direct trams run regularly from the University to the Railway Station, Meadowhall Shopping Centre and various park and ride facilities. Excellent bus services also link student accommodation with the University campus and city centre, although many students choose to walk.

Thank you
We hope you’ve enjoyed your self-guided tour around the University.

Printed on environmentally preferable material.

Further information
SSID
SSID is a “one-stop shop” for student related enquiries. If you have any general questions about the University following your tour you can visit our Students Services Information Desk (SSID) during university working hours. SSID is located in the Students’ Union Building on level 3. Alternatively you can visit the ‘Ask Sheffield’ website: ask.sheffield.ac.uk

Departmental Visit
If you would like to visit an Academic Department or meet with staff from the Disability and Dyslexia Support Service, please make contact prior to visiting by calling 0114 222 2000 or call in to the SSID desk in the Students’ Union on the day of your visit.

Careers Service
The Careers Service is based at Education House. In addition to supporting current students, graduates can access the service for up to three years after graduation.

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Please recycle