



UNIVERSITY
of
GREENWICH

Brighter Futures Symposium

'Enhancing opportunities for all in higher education'

Thursday 9th July 2015

Room 016, King William Building



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The aim of the Brighter Futures symposium is to stimulate discussion, critical thinking and knowledge exchange between the academy, policy and practice concerning the issues affecting academic attainment and outcomes of students at the University of Greenwich.

The symposium, which is being hosted by the Department of History, Politics and Social Sciences, emerged out of a key objective of the Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) achievement project, chaired by Corine Delage, Senior Lead for Student Experience, which was set up with the aim of raising awareness about the issues that BME students face within higher education, and the impact of these issues on their progress, academic attainment and long term outcomes, particularly with regards to employability

The aim is underpinned by the following main objectives:

- To bring together a range of multidisciplinary perspectives drawing from the fields of sociology, social policy, education, history and contributions from students, policymakers and practitioners on the key issues educational experiences and their progress, academic attainment employability

- To raise awareness within the university and beyond, of the specific issues BME students face within higher education and how these issues impact on their academic progress and longer term outcomes
- To generate and exchange shared knowledge on the contribution of policy and practice in facilitating positive outcomes for BME students, while they are at university and beyond

The event includes a range of papers from academics, practitioners and policy makers and current students which explores issues impacting on academic attainment and employability of Black and minority ethnic students. There will also be a roundtable discussion at the end, which will be led by practitioners and policy makers in the area, and which draws all of issues identified in the presentations, and identifies good practice and possible solutions. This is the first of four symposia, aimed at exploring these issues in depth.

It will be a stimulating event, and we encourage students, practitioners, academics and anyone else who is interested in these issues to attend. Registration is free via the following link:

www.symposium-hpss.eventbrite.co.uk

Lunch is also provided. There will also be drinks in Queen Anne Building 077, to launch the future symposia.

9–9.30am	REGISTRATION – King William foyer	
9.30–9.50am	Welcome and Introduction	Professor Judith Burnett , Pro Vice Chancellor, FACH, Dr June Balshaw , Head of Department, HPSS
9.50–10am	Overview of symposium series	Professor Tracey Reynolds Research Professor in the Faculty of Architecture, Computing and Humanities. Dr Louise Owusu-Kwarteng Programme Leader, BA Hons Sociology and BSc Hons Sociology and Psychology
10–10.45am	Keynote Speech	Baroness Doreen Lawrence of Clarendon Chaired by: Corine Delage, Architecte DPLG(France) MLA HARVARD, SFHEA University of Greenwich
10.45–11.00am	Coffee break – King William foyer	
11am–12.30pm	PANEL 1 Barriers to Employability	Dr Craig Morris University of Greenwich <i>'An academic year in employability'</i> Dr Kalwant Bhopal University of Southampton <i>'BME student experiences and labour market transitions'</i> Dr Debbie Bernard Runnymede Trust <i>'When will education be enough? BME educational careers and social (im)mobility'</i> Chaired by: Professor Tracey Reynolds

12.30–1.45pm	Lunch and networking – King William foyer	
1.45–2.45pm	PANEL 2 Promoting an inclusive curriculum	Dr Louise Owusu-Kwarteng University of Greenwich <i>Paper title: Promoting an inclusive curriculum – Approaches adopted in the BA Hons Sociology Degree at the University of Greenwich</i> Dr Andrea Abbas University of Lincoln <i>A Bernsteinian analysis of the experiences of black and minority ethnic students studying sociology at four universities in England.</i> Chaired by: Dr Peter Jones
2.45–3pm	Coffee break – King William foyer	
3–4pm	PANEL 3 Student reflections on their educational experiences and enhancing educational and employment opportunities	Rochia Powell University of Greenwich <i>A reflection of experiences of studying Sociology/Psychology at The University of Greenwich</i> Charles Oham University of Greenwich <i>Social Enterprise Philosophy as a Tool for Graduate Employment: A Case Study</i> Jack Cain University of Greenwich <i>Rolling the Dice. A Postgraduate Funding Gamble : Possible implications for BME students in enhancing opportunities for further study and longer term employment</i> Chaired by: Dr Louise Owusu-Kwarteng
4–4.45	Roundtable discussion: Working on partnerships for a brighter future	Daniel Robinson – Head of Graduate recruitment. The REED NCFE Partnership Cordelia Osewa-Ediae – Clore Social Fellow and Training Consultant Mete Coban – Labour Councillor for Hackney and Chair of MylifeMySay Chaired by: Professor Judith Burnett
4.45–5pm	Round-up and final words from Professor David Maguire, Vice-Chancellor	
QA077	Drinks reception	

Symposium speakers

Keynote speaker:

Baroness Lawrence of Clarence, OBE

Baroness Lawrence is currently the Director of the Stephen Lawrence Charitable Trust, and the Stephen Lawrence Centre, which was established in memory of her son Stephen, and which provides bursaries to aspiring young architects.

She received a life peerage in August 2013 and took up office in the House of Lords in October 2013. Baroness Lawrence OBE was admitted as an Honorary Freewoman of the London Borough of Lewisham on 14th March 2014 in recognition of her work in seeking justice for her son, Stephen and creating a positive and dynamic legacy in his honour.

Baroness Lawrence holds a BA Honours Degree in Humanities and a postgraduate certificate in Counselling Skills and later gained a diploma in Therapeutic Counselling. Baroness Lawrence has been awarded six honorary degrees, by the University of East Anglia, Bradford University, Staffordshire University, University of Greenwich, Bishop Grosseteste University College Lincoln, University of East London FRIBA (Honorary Fellow Royal Institute of British Architect), Goldsmiths College University Honorary Fellows and at the start of 2013 from York University. She has also been a recipient of the Freedom of the Royal Borough of Greenwich and the Special Award for the Legal Aid Lawyer of the Year.

Dr. Andrea Abbas, University of Lincoln

Dr. Andrea Abbas is Reader in Education at the University of Lincoln. She was the Interim Head of the School of Education (formerly the Centre for Educational Research and Development) between March 2013 and December 2015. She has conducted research into higher education since 1999, which explores the efficacy of different social theories in describing and explaining the processes underpinning inequality and, in conceptualising the possibilities for greater social justice. In doing so, she has drawn upon an eclectic range of sociological theories and concepts including those developed by the sociologist Basil Bernstein, critical realist writers, feminist writers, Habermas, actor-network theorists and Zigmund Bauman.

Andrea's projects have focused on: the experiences and conditions of part-time teachers of sociology; understanding the quality of undergraduate education from the perspective of what students and society gets out of university level study in sociology; the experiences of early career social sciences and arts academics in an age of austerity; understanding the value of postgraduate STEM masters courses for students, universities, employers and society; and knowledge production in the UK university system. The role and value of the knowledge produced and learned within a university context has become central to her work.

Professor Judith Burnett, University of Greenwich

Professor Judith Burnett is Pro Vice-Chancellor of the Faculty of Architecture, Computing, Humanities, with specific cross institutional responsibility for student experience. Further to working in the University of East London she held senior positions in the University of Wolverhampton (founding Dean of the School of Law, Social Sciences and Communications and interim Pro Vice-Chancellor Academic).

Professor Burnett is a sociologist of generations and social change, and has written on the sociology of generations, contemporary adulthood, demographic change and age based identities. She is the Chair of the British Sociological Association, and is more generally currently engaged with the challenges facing education, knowledge transfer and research, including A-Level reform, Open Access, growing research capacity and knowledge access and exchange.

Dr. June Balshaw, University of Greenwich

Dr Balshaw is Head of History Politics and Social Sciences at the University of Greenwich. She is a social and cultural historian and since 2010 has led the University of Greenwich based Memories of War oral history project, which involved interviewing several hundred people about their wartime experiences during the Second World War. June is committed to learning and teaching initiatives which are innovative and student focused and is currently researching the roles of the Women's Voluntary Services and the Citizens advice Bureau during the Second World War.

Dr Debbie Barnard, The Runnymede Trust

Dr. Debbie Barnard is Runnymede's senior research and policy analyst specialising in education. Her work has included research on the impact of educational 'choice' agendas on BME parents and children. Debbie has conducted research for both Runnymede and Nottingham Trent University on projects exploring the reasons for the gap in achievement between children from different minority ethnic communities, together with projects identifying ways of improving BME pupil achievement and work exploring the disproportionate rates of school exclusion experienced by African-Caribbean boys.

Debbie has worked as an associate lecturer for the Open University, teaching social psychology and criminology and her doctorate work explored young black female identity. Debbie's additional research interests include work on 'race' and girlhood, young parenting and black popular culture.

Debbie holds a BA in Sociology from the University of Essex, a PhD in Social Psychology/Sociology from Nottingham Trent University and a Postgraduate Diploma in Law from City University.

Dr Kalwant Bhopal, University of Southampton

Dr. Kalwant Bhopal is a Reader in Education and Director of Postgraduate Research Degrees. Her academic qualifications include BA (Hons) Sociology, MSc (Econ) Sociology, PGCE (FE) and PhD (University of Bristol). Her areas of interest and expertise are centred around the achievements and experiences of minority ethnic groups in education. She has a great deal of research experience in examining the lives of South Asian women and Gypsy and Traveller groups, focussing on social justice and inclusion.

Jack Cain, University of Greenwich

Jack Cain is a Post Graduate student at the University of Greenwich. He previously undertook a degree in Politics and International relations at the university, and is currently completing a Masters' degree in Public Policy.

Corine Delage, Architecte DPLG (France), MLA (Harvard), SFHEA University of Greenwich

Corine Delage is Director of Student Experience for the Faculty of Architecture, Computing & Humanities at the University of Greenwich. Her academic background is in Architecture and Landscape Architecture. This Symposium emerged out of the work done over the last academic year by a Faculty working group on BME students' achievement and outcomes, which she chaired.

Dr. Craig Morris, University of Greenwich

Dr. Craig Morris is a senior lecturer in sociology. He teaches on the courses Drugs and Drug Use in Society, Investigating Contemporary Popular Culture and Researching Society and Culture (as well as occasionally contributing to other courses). He is also the HPSS Departmental lead for Student Employability. Craig's main research interests lie in language/discourse analysis and social aspects of illicit drug use, and is currently undertaking work around student employability.

Charles Oham, University of Greenwich

Charles Oham is a Senior Lecturer in Social Enterprise at the School of Health & Social Care. His career in the public and third sector has included regeneration and community development, social entrepreneurship, enterprise and innovation services and international development. Current key responsibilities include teaching social enterprise and management modules. He is a fellow of the Higher Education Academy. His research interests cover the following areas Social Entrepreneurship, Entrepreneurship, Ethnic Minority Business, Spiritual Capital, Faith Based Enterprises, Innovation in Entrepreneurship, Community and International Development.

Dr Louise Owusu-Kwarteng, University of Greenwich

Dr. Louise Owusu-Kwarteng has taught Sociology at the University of Greenwich since 2005. She is a Senior Lecturer, and currently the Programme Leader for the BA Hons Sociology/BSc Sociology and Psychology degrees.

Her research interests fall within the Sociology of Race and Education. Her PhD focused on the role of the family in the academic achievement of these groups, most especially of Ghanaians in Britain. She has also published a paper entitled 'Telling a different story, effects of parenting on the academic and professional achievements of British Ghanaian high flyers'.

She has also undertaken research which focuses on the experiences of African students in Higher education, as part of the Black and Minority Ethnic project which commenced at the University of Greenwich in 2008/9; intra ethnic relations between Black groups in Britain which explores the extent to which race based coalitions have been formed amongst second and third generation British African and Caribbean people. Her work also includes an autobiographical reflection of her grandmother's role in the educational attainment of females in her family.

Rochia Powell, University of Greenwich

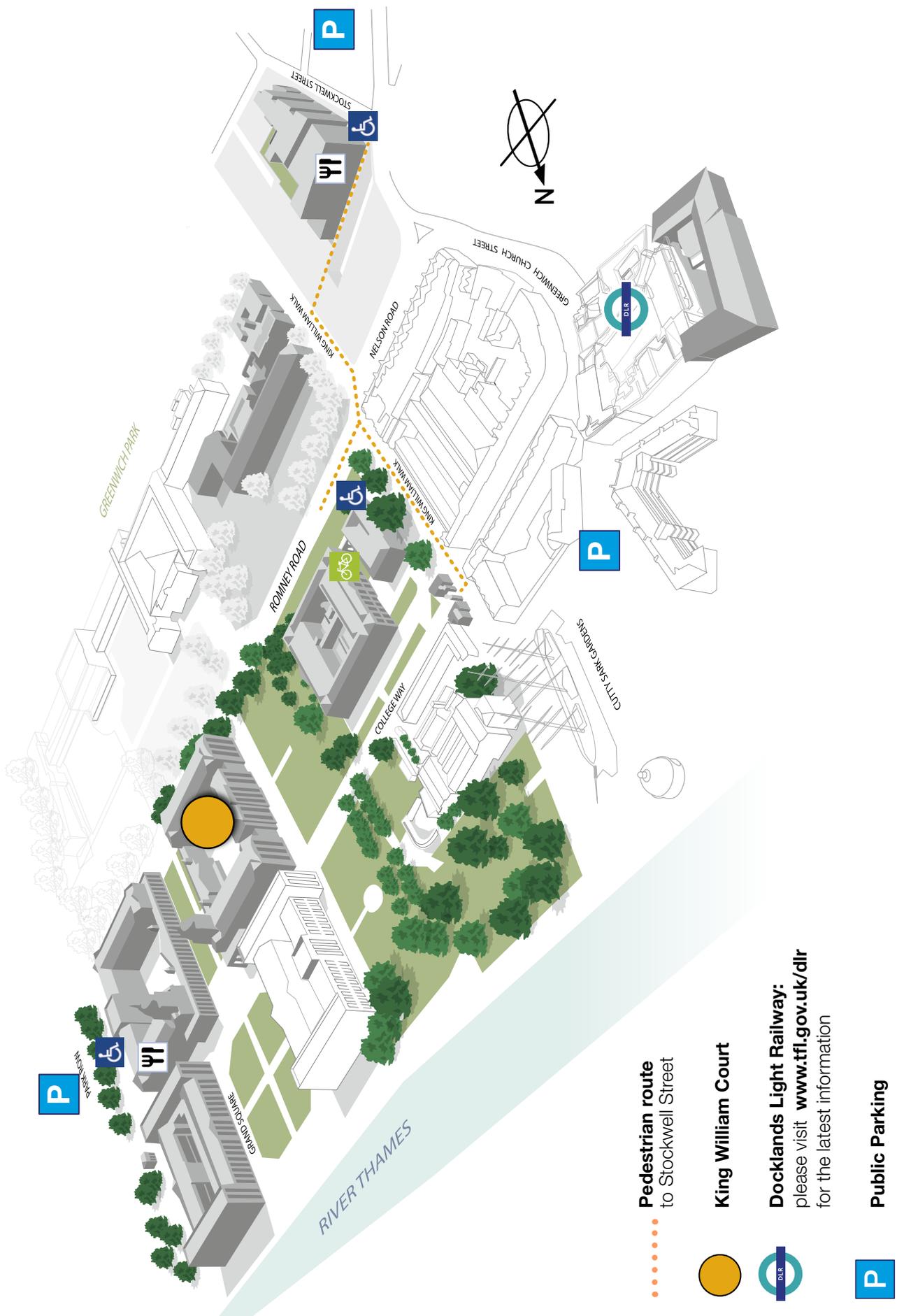
Rochia is currently a BSc Sociology and Psychology student at the University of Greenwich. She is also a student representative for this programme.

Professor Tracey Reynolds, University of Greenwich

Professor Tracey Reynolds is located in the Faculty of Architecture, Computing and Humanities. Tracey began her academic career in 1998 in the Faculty of Arts Humanities and Science, London South Bank University shortly after completing her PhD in Sociology here.

Tracey's teaching and research interests focus on transnational families and kinship networks; constructions of motherhood and parenting & youth studies, and she has established international recognition within these fields of expertise. She has conducted extensive empirical research in the UK across a range of social issues including black and minority families living in disadvantaged communities, the study of families and in the Caribbean and North America.

Greenwich Campus

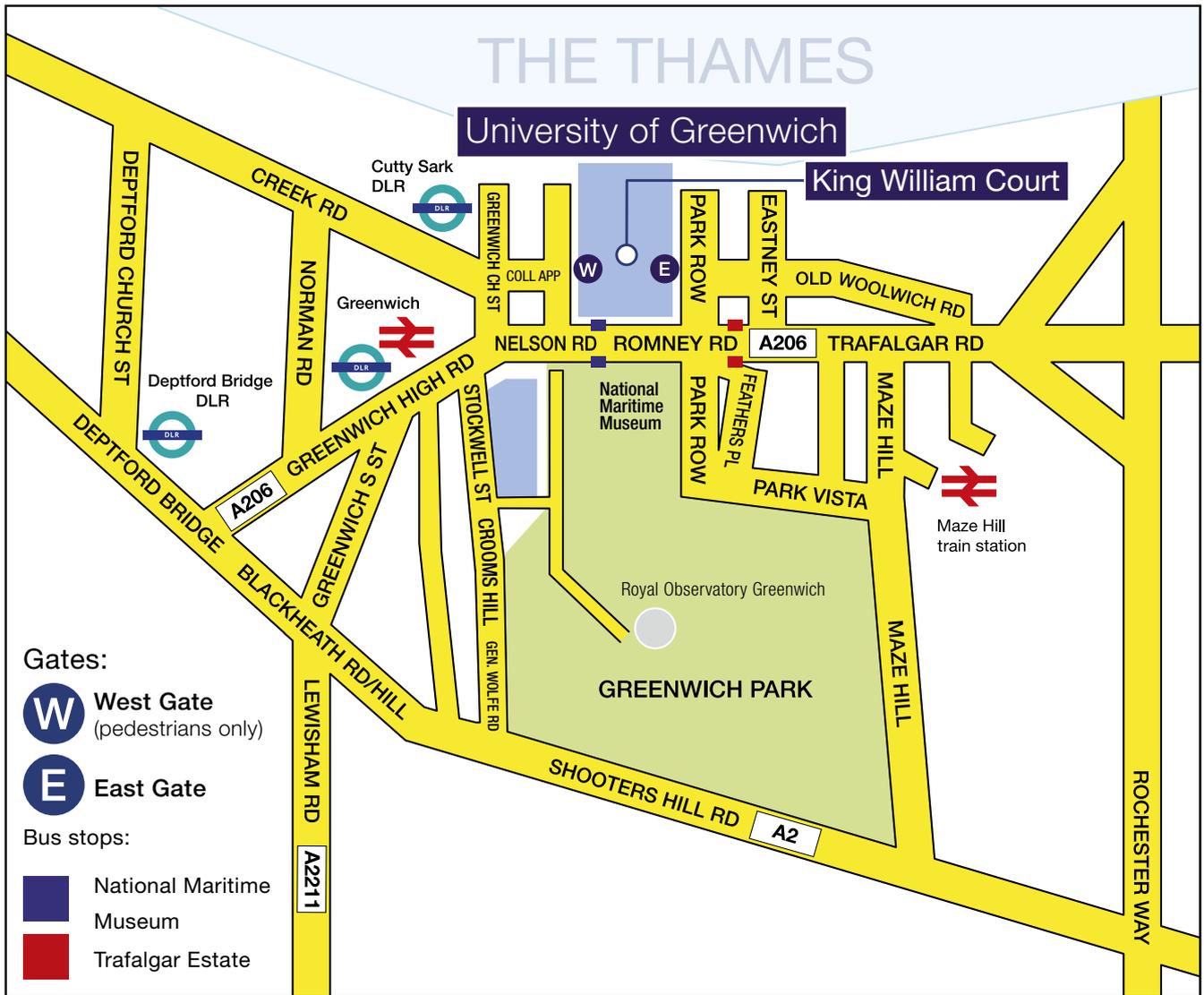


Pedestrian route
to Stockwell Street

King William Court

Docklands Light Railway:
please visit www.tfl.gov.uk/dlr
for the latest information

Public Parking



How to find us

Road: from the M25, take the A2 turn-off to London and join the A2. Continue straight ahead on to the A102. Take the turnoff signposted Greenwich (A206). At the roundabout take the first exit to Greenwich. Continue along the A206 for approximately 1 mile. Turn right at the traffic lights into Park Row. The campus is on your left. A public car park is on your right and there is also on-street parking. If driving from the Blackwall Tunnel, exit on to the slip road for the A206 Greenwich. For more information, log on to gre.ac.uk/about/travel.

Train: take a train from London Bridge, Cannon Street or Charing Cross to Greenwich station, or to Maze Hill on the same line if travelling from Kent.

Tube: the nearest underground station is North Greenwich on the Jubilee Line. Then take a 188 bus to the campus.

Docklands Light Railway (DLR): Cutty Sark station is close to the campus and is on the line to Lewisham. If travelling from London on the Tube, change for the DLR at Bank or Tower Gateway.

Bus: log on to www.tfl.gov.uk/buses for the latest information.





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Old Royal Naval College
Park Row
London
SE10 9LS

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Registered office: Old Royal Naval College, Park Row, Greenwich, London SE10 9LS

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