

A **BRIGHT**
FUTURE

A Russell Group manifesto for the UK

24 universities

750,000 students

World-leading research

Over 1200 active spin outs

Supporting over ¼ million jobs

Anchor institutions in the 4 nations

Collaborating with business and the NHS

A key partner for the next Government

**OUR VISION IS FOR A HEALTHY,
GREEN AND MORE RESILIENT
COUNTRY WITH A THRIVING
INNOVATION-DRIVEN ECONOMY
THAT CAN TACKLE MAJOR
CHALLENGES AND GIVE PEOPLE THE
OPPORTUNITY TO GET ON IN LIFE.**

Achieving this will need a renewed focus on high-level skills, harnessing new technologies effectively, and the best research to advance health care, tackle climate change and rejuvenate business.

Our world-class research-intensive universities are already working hard to make this vision a reality: they are delivering real and sustained impact right across the country and are keen to do even more.

The opportunity for a bright future is there to grasp, and we will partner with the next Government to deliver it.

SKILLS FOR THE FUTURE

The UK needs skilled graduates, postgraduates and apprentices for sustainable growth, but funding gaps due to inflation and cost-of-living pressures threaten the skills pipeline.

The funding universities receive for teaching must increase to reflect inflation so we can protect the quality of higher education and deliver work-ready graduates.

The Government can set students up for success by uplifting maintenance loans to reflect inflation and reintroducing maintenance grants for the most disadvantaged.



**Russell Group
universities educate
more than 1/3 of
new UK engineers
and 2/3 of new UK
mathematicians**

A THRIVING ECONOMY

Backing excellent research in UK universities can boost productivity, advance knowledge and transform our economy for the future.

The UK should match our international competitors by investing at least 3% of GDP in R&D by 2030, supporting universities to enhance the UK's capabilities as a global science and research powerhouse.

A Research and Innovation Guarantee with fast-track planning and new VAT rules for research facilities with business will help build the new labs the UK needs.

A British Business Bank 'Spark Fund' and pension fund reforms will help create hundreds of new deep-tech spinouts from universities.

**We can unlock
£1bn every year for
every extra £80m
invested in the
Higher Education
Innovation Fund**

A GREEN FUTURE

Russell Group universities are delivering green breakthroughs that can cut energy bills, reduce carbon emissions and help accelerate progress toward Net Zero.

A Green Boost to tried and tested research funding streams, along with smart regulation, proof of concept and innovative procurement opportunities will turn Net Zero ideas into reality.

Creating a network of Net Zero Trailblazer Universities to share best practice will help communities cut carbon emissions and discover new opportunities for green jobs.

**More than 90% of
research at Russell
Group universities
is world-leading
or internationally
excellent**

A HEALTHY FUTURE

Russell Group universities can deliver the skilled staff and new treatments the NHS needs to get waiting lists down and save lives.

A new medical training taskforce to oversee workforce planning will help give the NHS the skilled staff it needs.

A healthcare education guarantee locking in funding increases for medical training in line with inflation will help universities train more NHS professionals in the UK.

Working with universities, the NHS can become the world's leading health research platform, developing more new treatments for patients.

**Russell Group
universities train
80% of new UK
doctors and dentists**

SECURING OUR PLACE IN THE WORLD

Supporting education exports and new, secure research partnerships will bring billions of pounds to the UK every year and strengthen our competitive advantage.

A new 2030 International Education Strategy and supportive visa system will help bring the best global talent to the UK.

Association to the Horizon Europe research programme and its successors will keep us at the cutting edge in new fields and help universities bring global talent to the UK, building our leadership position in the technologies of the future.

A UK Research Security Fund would boost university efforts to counter foreign interference and enhance UK resilience.

**Higher education exports
add £37.4bn net to the
UK economy every year
and each 1% increase
in international student
market share boosts
this by a further £5bn**

**Celebrating the success of UK
science, humanities and the arts to
create a bright future for everyone.**



Find out more about
the Russell Group's
vision for the UK

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