

Finance transformation brings efficiency and innovation to higher education

With more than 22,000 students, this university in the south of England is in the top 20% of world institutions ranked by QS World University Rankings and employs more than 4,000 staff.

INFO

INDUSTRY: Higher Education

SIZE: More than 22,000 students and 4,000 staff

LOCATION: Reading, UK

PRODUCT: Unit4 Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)

The Challenge

As competition for students continues to surge among universities, Brexit may limit the EU as a source of students, staff, and research funding. A review and reform of post-16-year-old education funding in England is expected to re-examine tuition fees and the balance of funding between higher and further education. Covid-19 impacts are also a factor, and there will be increased options and alternative providers for those leaving school in the future.



How did Unit4 help?

- The University has relied on Unit4 ERP for financial management for almost 15 years and upgraded seamlessly last year to the latest version, which will add finance functionality.
- Phase One created a foundation for finance transformation; Phase Two will provide the pay-off: accelerated, informed, self-service decision-making across campuses.
- Seamless integration with SIS, eCommerce, and other systems will ensure holistic financial insight
- Unit4 Research Costing & Pricing will provide complete insight and control over research contracts management
- Intuitive self-service will make financial reporting and decision-making accessible to assigned stakeholders across the campus



Achievements

Finance transformation
Helps deliver increased finance visibility and control

Finance innovation
Enables finance move from transaction processing to partnership in strategic decision making

Contracts management
Will provide complete, end-to-end shared control over research contracts management

“Phase One is a milestone in our finance transformation, moving towards connected ERP capabilities like Finance, Expenses, Planning, and Research Costing.”

Emma Ashley, Financial Controller, University of Reading

Impacts



AGILE

Balancing income and expenditure demands



AUTOMATED

Frees resources for education and research



SELF-SERVICE

Agile, campus-wide finance reporting for approx. 4,000 staff

For more information, go to: www.unit4.com

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