# Woodlands



The woodlands were originally a mix of open pasture and trees that have grown since the development of Founder's Building in the 1880's. Several of the old oak and beech trees were actually field boundary trees from when the land was grazed. You will also see remnant species from the past curatorial landscape where Victorians loved to plant trees collected from across the world, look out for the giant redwood and the monkey puzzle tree.



To find out more about the grounds visit the Living Campus royalholloway.ac.uk/living-campus

# Did you know?

#### **Wood anemone**

This is one of the first plants to flower in the woodlands, and is known to be an ancient woodland indicator.

#### Roe deer

Roe deer are one of our native deer, with records of them in the UK from before the Mesolithic period (6000 to 10000 years BC). They can often be seen browsing around the woodland edges.

# Speckled wood butterfly

This butterfly's caterpillars rely on several different grass species, and the emerged butterfly likes to eat honey dew from aphids.

# Rusty click beetle

This is one of the rarest and largest click beetles in the UK. They spend most of their life as a grub eating decayed wood in older trees. This is why it is so important to protect and retain old trees and plant younger

## **Foxglove**

The foxglove's large flowers are designed to help bumble bees land and climb up to the nectar, to maximise the chance of being pollinated.

## Solitary wasp

This wasp species is a parasite of other insects, hunting and capturing prey for their grubs to eat. These wasps are also known to overwinter in caves.

# **Badger**

You may see signs of badgers routing around site at night, they are the UK's largest land predator and eat a wide range of foods. They live in setts with their family groups.

### Greater stag beetle

This declining beetle is the largest in the UK. Like the lesser stag, its grub lives in decaying wood of old trees. The adult beetles can't actually eat solid food, and rely on fat reserves built from their larval stage and soft food such as tree sap

