

Campus Critters | Birds



Kestrel

The kestrel is a familiar sight hovering over the side of the road with their pointed wings held out, looking out for its favourite food: small mammals like field voles.



Kingfisher

Blink and you may miss the fantastic kingfisher! This beautiful bird is easy to recognise thanks to its bright blue and metallic copper colours. It darts along the riverbank or sits patiently on a low branch over the water waiting for its next meal to swim by.

Lapwing

The Lapwing has long crests, black and white patterns and very broad, round wingtips. It wheels around a winter sky in a massive flock. Listen out for their 'peewit' calls.



Jay

The jay is a brightly coloured crow that can be found in woodland, parks and gardens. Surprisingly shy, its screaming call is most likely to be heard as it flies between trees



Great spotted woodpecker

The 'drumming' of a great spotted woodpecker is a familiar sound of our woodlands, parks and gardens. It is a form of communication and is mostly used to mark territories and to display in spring. It is black and white, with white shoulder patches and red underneath the tail. Males have a red patch at the back of the head.

Barn owl

The beautiful barn owl is, perhaps, our most-loved owl. With its distinctive heart-shaped face, pure white feathers, and ghostly silent flight, it's easy to identify. Look out for it flying low over fields and hedgerows at dawn and dusk. It has a mottled silver-grey and buff back, and a pure white underside. It has a distinctive heart-shaped, white face, and black eyes.



Oystercatcher

The Oystercatcher has a black head, back and wings, and a white underside. It has a long, red bill and pinky-red legs. The loud 'peep-ing' call of an Oystercatcher is a recognisable sound

