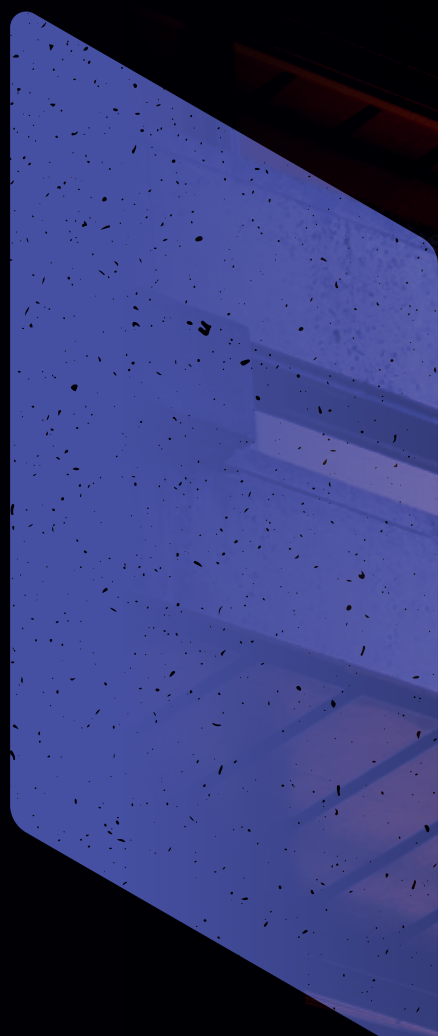




THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH
Library

Library Strategy 2030





Sparkling
ideas that
change
the world



Vision and Purpose

The Library helps people to grow their knowledge and create new connections through open services, collections and environments, sparking ideas that change the world. We value ambition, openness and inclusivity.

We are responsible for the University of Edinburgh's digital and physical collections. We work in partnership with colleagues across our parent group, Information Services, to bring our collections to the University community and global audiences. Our collections are diverse and wide-ranging, including heritage collections; they support learners and research across all disciplines. This Strategy is set in the context of the University of Edinburgh's Strategy 2030.

Our Libraries

- Provide high-quality, open, accessible and sustainable services.
- Are the University's collections and information experts.
- Deliver quick and effective access to collections required for teaching, learning and research, maximising access to online and open content and training by empowering users to become effective learners and researchers.
- Provide an inclusive environment which supports inspiration, thinking, reflection and are designed to deliver our services to meet the needs of the community.
- Lead the University's transition to open scholarship.
- Preserve, interpret and promote the University's history and intellectual cultural heritage.
- Support the University's place in and relationship with the local and international community.
- Guide the University on the changing nature of research and its evaluation.
- Exploit the latest technology to serve the University through innovation.



Library Strategy 2030

Built on our vision and purpose, our strategy addresses the priorities set out in the University Strategy 2030 and the current Information Services Strategy.

The primary function of the University is to deliver excellent teaching and research, and this will always underpin the priorities we set out in this strategy.

Our strategy addresses the four themes underpinning the University Strategy:

- 1 People
- 2 Research
- 3 Teaching and learning
- 4 Social and civic responsibility

People

Our people include our colleagues and everyone who uses our spaces, services and collections.

We will invest in all our teams to ensure they are knowledgeable, trained, adaptable and empowered to provide the best possible services. Equality, Diversity & Inclusion underpins all our service delivery and the choices we make. We value all our peoples’ contributions equally.

Over the next five years we will:

- Improve Equality, Diversity & Inclusion for all our people through the informed and positive activities of staff and in support of University networks.
- Support our students’ health, wellbeing and sense of belonging through development of wellbeing collections, the provision of social prescribing, on-campus initiatives, and engagement opportunities with our shared cultural heritage.
- Develop connections to our alumni and the University’s philanthropic goals via our services and cultural heritage collections.
- Provide continuous professional development to ensure colleagues are supported to do their jobs effectively and possess up-to-date digital skills throughout their careers.
- Recognise colleagues’ contributions to business as usual, as well as project and programme work.
- Be proactive in positively managing workload, encouraging flexibility and resilience in our colleagues and teams, equipping everyone with the skills to succeed.

Research

We support research by: developing library collections and services and providing access to them to enable Research; supporting the University’s transition to open scholarship; providing advice and guidance on best practice in research support; and active stewardship of University of Edinburgh collections.

Over the next five years we will:

- Increase the amount of University collections-focused research and partner with academic schools to develop collections-based research projects.
- Improve accessibility to, and discoverability of, collections for research and develop collections to support new research disciplines.
- Enable researchers and students to use library collections computationally, enabling innovative digital scholarship approaches to research.
- Help to shape the field of academic research support across the University and among international peers.
- Be the University’s open research experts informing our responses to national and international policy and open research initiatives.

Teaching and Learning

We support teaching and learning for all our students and external users by providing core Library services and resources, and new ways for students to engage creatively with heritage collections and technology.

Over the next five years we will:

- Provide and improve access to resources for students on campus and worldwide, prioritising online access to resources and enabling straightforward access to open digital resources where appropriate.
- Provide systematic review, digital literacy, AI, and information skills training, and academic writing guidance for all students.
- Encourage curiosity by developing welcoming physical and digital spaces where people can explore our collections and where collections can challenge and inspire.
- Support teaching through greater use of our unique heritage and specialist regional collections, working with academic colleagues to provide object-based learning within library and museum spaces.

Social and Civic Responsibility

Social and civic responsibility is at the heart of the library and heritage collections world. Our collections, services and spaces provide the facilities and the opportunities for our university and wider communities to think openly, to understand each other’s points of view and to be able to meet and debate.

We understand the environmental and financial implications of our services. Our libraries and stores are some of the most heavily used buildings in the University’s estate and support people from the University and the wider community in Edinburgh and beyond.

Over the next five years we will:

- Foreground environmental and financial sustainability in the decisions we make.
- Apply an ‘as open as possible and as closed as necessary’ policy to collections and spaces.
- Build collections and resources that reflect the diversity of our University, local and wider communities and the diverse viewpoints contained within them.
- Preserve our collections, digital and print, for future users.
- Review our collections, services and spaces to ensure they are environmentally sustainable.



Library Team Strategic Objectives

- 1

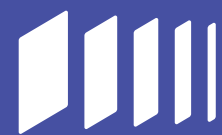
Collections Services
To effectively support teaching and research and make the best use of available library budgets and spaces through refining print collections, maximising online and open access to resources, and providing Resource Lists for all appropriate taught courses.
- 2

Digital Library
To rebuild our digital collections infrastructure, to facilitate better access and discovery of our digital heritage collections for researchers and students.
- 3

Heritage Collections
To develop our collections, spaces and services in the most inclusive, accessible and welcoming way possible, to meet the needs of our users, visitors and staff
- 4

Library Academic Support
To support Schools and Colleges by meeting their distinct library needs. We aim to communicate the diverse range of library resources and services to enhance the teaching, learning, research experience and empower library users to refine their digital and information-data literacy proficiency bridging the gap between theory and practical application.
- 5

Library Research Support
To support the University’s research activities by providing high-quality infrastructure, services and training. We enable the University’s transition to Open Research.



The Library is the heart
of this world-class
University, available to
support as an active
partner all wanting to
explore, research
and learn.





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Find out more

For further information or if you require this document in an alternative format, such as large print or a coloured background, please contact **IS.Helpline@ed.ac.uk**

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