

Library and Learning Resources Collection Strategy

The Collection Strategy, along with the [Library and Learning Resources Strategy](#), will guide the development and management of Canterbury Christ Church University's library collections and ensure that they fit the needs of our users and are responsive to changes in the University and sector.

Collections Vision

The library collections will be dynamic and responsive, meeting the needs of our students and researchers. The collection will reflect the diversity of our users. We will work in collaboration with university colleagues to provide user-focused, inclusive and accessible collections enabling access to trusted content. We will monitor user trends and advances in resource formats, licences and scholarly publishing agreements to make the best use of the available budget. Collection decisions will be evidence-based and collaborative.

Strategic Priorities

The aim of this strategy is to develop infrastructure, both people and systems, to effectively manage collections that are aligned to the vision and values of CCCU and the Library and Learning Resources Strategy.

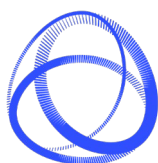
Links to Vision 2030

The guiding principles of the Collection Strategy are the values of [Canterbury Christ Church University's Vision 2030](#):

- Sustainable and ethical
- Compassionate and inclusive
- Innovative and courageous
- Collaborative and creative

The Collection Strategy will be informed by key principles of the Vision 2030 underpinning strategies namely:

Vision 2030 strategy	Principle	Fit to Collection Strategy
Financial Strategy	Ensuring transparency in budget setting and reporting and delivery efficiency, effectiveness and value for money.	Most appropriate procurement route will be used to achieve best terms and value for money either national consortia (e.g. JISC), regional agreements (e.g. South



		<p>Universities Purchasing Consortia) or through local agreements.</p> <p>Purchasing and renewal decisions will be evidence based, using usage analytics and feedback.</p>
Research, Enterprise and Innovation Outcomes Strategy	Aim of being ranked in the middle third of HEIs for research as a result of performance in the REF 2029.	Collections and resources will be informed by and support the research needs of CCCU.
Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy vision	To develop a reputation for outstanding learning and teaching that is flexible, research led and industry relevant, enhanced by an engaging digital and physical learning environment.	Collections and resources will support learning and teaching.
Digital Strategy vision	We will embrace digital, change and innovation to improve operational efficiency and to provide flexibility and choice for students and staff.	Library technologies will be monitored and assessed to ensure the best experience for staff and students.
People, culture, and community	<p>Our community will help to eliminate discrimination, promote equity, diversity and inclusion and embed a strong sense of belonging in all that we do.</p> <p>Our digital maturity will increase to ensure we are data driven, better connected and equipped to use new and emerging technologies to meet the expectations of our students and other colleagues.</p>	<p>The collection will reflect the diversity of our users. We will promote content from underrepresented communities, by reviewing and expanding our suppliers and by considering resources in multiple formats.</p> <p>Decisions on collections will be evidence based and driven by data.</p>

Context

The information resources landscape is evolving rapidly, and there are several trends and developments that have a significant impact on the management of collections at Canterbury Christ Church University.

1. **Our users**

- A diverse student body, making it important to broaden perspectives and ensure that varied voices are reflected in the library collections.
- User expectations of seamless online discovery and easy access to library resources.
- Expectation of access wherever our users are, e.g. on placement, commuting etc.
- Need to support evolving research requirements.

2. **Infrastructure**

- Library service platform – the need to ensure a well maintained and up-to-date discovery system that supports digital collections, databases and online resources as well as the physical collection, which enables unrestricted access for users. This requires ongoing investment and expertise.
- Library space capacity – the physical collection is limited by the space available in the libraries for display and storage.
- There are resource constraints, in terms of space, budget, systems and expertise.
- Dynamic collection that requires continuous review to be relevant and discoverable, and updating the discovery tools to reflect what is available on the shelves and online.

3. **Trends in information resources**

- Digital transformation of resources including the emergence of new publishing and licensing models, digitisation initiatives.
- Open Research – development of transformative agreements for open access publishing in journals and developments in open access monograph publishing.
- The move to facilitated access rather than wholly owned content as more e-publishing moves to leasing rather than purchase models, e.g. digital textbook provision.
- National library networks and move to 'just in time' rather than 'just in case' resource provision.
- Copyright and licensing - negotiating licences and copyright restrictions.
- New and emerging resource formats - evaluating the relevance of new formats and its value to the collection.
- Climate change and the need to develop sustainable collections.

4. CCCU specific context

- Collections will need to be responsive and adaptable to support the academic portfolio of the university.
- Growth of partnerships - developing collection services that meet the need of partner institutions.
- Unified Library Management System partnership with University of Greenwich and University of Kent including the shared library at Medway.
- Kent and Medway Medical School (KMMS) partnership.

Principles

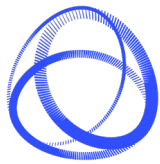
The following principles will guide the Library and Learning Resources' decision making and policies for collections and have been designed to reflect the values of the University as well as best practice in the sector.

- User focused, diverse, inclusive, sustainable and accessible.
- Digital wherever possible unless superseded by pedagogical, academic or accessibility imperatives.
- Community and partnership based – KMMS, Universities of Medway.
- Timely and relevant – point of need rather than just in case, collections that reflect current teaching and research.
- Discoverable – effective use of technology, training and promotion of library services and collections.
- Adherence to the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions' (IFLA) [Statement on Libraries and Intellectual Freedom](#) principles of universal access to information and not restricting access to materials unless the content is illegal.
- Strive for equitable access to collections and resources
- Promotion and support of Open Research.
- Forward looking - identifying emerging technologies and user trends to provide best experience for our users.
- Facilitated access through national and international networks.
- Commitment to support projects ensuring preservation of access to research e.g. UK Research Reserve (UKRR) support.
- Collaborative – taking part in nationally or locally agreed consortia to ensure best terms and value for money.
- User centred – informed by user feedback and analysis of survey responses.

Collection Management

The collection is divided into two broad parts - the dynamic collection and the unique and specialist collection. These two categories have different collection management focus.

- Dynamic Collection



Canterbury Christ Church University

- A changing and dynamic collection that is responsive to the needs of teaching and research.
 - Acquisitions are primarily through resourcing reading lists and through requests from users.
 - Digital resources wherever possible
 - Latest editions purchased unless there is a communicated academic need for earlier editions.
 - Multiple copies only acquired and retained to support current or future teaching need.
 - Collection is regularly reviewed, informed by data and user requirements and developments in the sector.
 - There will be a programme of collection assessment where material will be reviewed, de-duplicated and relegated according to data and user requirements.
 - Donated material is only accepted where items meet the current or known future teaching or research needs in the University, and where library space and staff resource is available to manage the donation.
- Unique and Specialist Collection
 - Unique, distinct content that contributes to the national collection.
 - Research collection – scholarly outputs from CCCU academics aligned to key research areas and kept in perpetuity on Research Space Repository.
 - Special Collections and Archives – separate policy framework to be developed.

Monitoring Performance

A set of key performance indicators (KPI) will be developed to monitor the delivery and performance of the collection and associated services via the Library and Learning Resources Service Delivery Plan.

The strategic KPIs used to measure the collection are:

- Spend on library resources per student FTE*
- Spend on library resources as a percentage of the overall library budget*
- Student satisfaction (NSS, PTES and PRES)*
- Proportion of spend on print versus digital resources
- Service availability of LibrarySearch

*These will be benchmarked against peer Universities via the Society of College, National and University Libraries (SCONUL) [Annual Statistical Return](#) to establish target metrics with the aim of being average or above.