

# Education

## Collecting policy 2008–2011

Liaison librarians:

- Elizabeth Schlackman: Early years and children's development and learning; Educational philosophy; Educational psychology; Educational sociology; Education studies and management; Religious education; Special educational needs
- Rachel Redrup: Art and design education; Drama education ; English education; History education; Modern Foreign Languages education; Theatre arts, Education and Deaf studies
- Christopher Cipkin: Music education
- Sarah Puzey: ICT; Mathematics education; Physical education; Science education; School Services Collection

## User profile

This collection statement covers provision for the Institute of Education. The collection serves all staff and students in the Institute.

Supplementary statements on collections relevant to subject specialisms are appended to this statement:

- Art and design education; Music education; Drama education; History education
- Language and literacy education
- Mathematics education and Science education
- Physical education

Some material is also used by staff and students in the School of Health and Social Care, in particular the material on child development and child welfare.

The Bulmershe Library collection also supports study in social sciences research methods, both qualitative and quantitative, and material is bought to cover this area.

The student numbers below are from University FTE teaching load figures 2007/2008 for the Institute of Education:

Undergraduates	318.79
Taught postgraduates	328.89
Research postgraduates	16

Current undergraduate and postgraduate courses are detailed on the institute website:

**[www.reading.ac.uk/education](http://www.reading.ac.uk/education)**

A large number of Masters courses are available part-time as a means of providing CPD opportunities to local teachers.

External users of the collections include local professionals in the area, particularly ex-students.

## Research

The research of the Institute of Education is grouped in four areas:

- Language and literacy in education
- Equity, inclusion and improvement
- Teaching and learning
- Creative arts in education

## Bulmershe Library

The majority of printed material on education is held at Bulmershe Library, which is due to close during this period. The relocation of materials to the Main Library Whiteknights is being planned, along with a major programme of stock review whereby some lower use material will be relegated to closed access storage.

## Current holdings

Materials fall mainly into the 370 (Education) section of the classification, with material on the intellectual development of children found at 136.72.

For more detail see the Education *Finding your way* guide, available from:

**[www.reading.ac.uk/library/education](http://www.reading.ac.uk/library/education)**

### **Books and multimedia**

At Bulmershe Library there are approximately 26,000 books located in the classification range 370 - 379 and 1,000 at 136.72

The School Services Collection at Bulmershe Library consists of: children's fiction and non-fiction from the 1960s onwards; a range of textbooks to GCSE level; and music scores. There are about 50,000 items in total in this collection which is intended for use by students undertaking work placements in schools - see the supplementary Collection Development Policy for the School Services Collection.

### **Periodicals**

There are 116 current journal subscriptions, 11 of which are 'shared' with other schools or departments. There are also a number of relevant e-journals available via *Unicorn* and the e-journals Finder.

## Reference/bibliographic

There are approximately 450 relevant reference volumes, including specialist encyclopedias, dictionaries, research handbooks and directories of schools and education authorities.

The Library subscribes to the following relevant subject specific electronic services:

- British Education Index
- Dissertation Abstracts
- ERIC (Educational Resources Information Centre)
- Film & Sound Online
- Index to Theses
- International Bibliography of the Social Sciences
- Social Sciences Citation Index (via ISI Web of Knowledge)
- PsycINFO

## Related special collections

The Children's Collection of children's literature is housed at UMASCS (University Museums and Special Collections Services).

## Strengths and exclusions

The education collection is strong in aspects of the organisation and management of schools and also includes a substantial section of general management material. The collection also includes a substantial section on special needs in education. International and comparative education is also well represented and includes resources on agricultural extension programmes and education in developing countries. Other strengths include secondary modern languages education.

Educational technology is an important component of most taught courses within the Institute of Education and the collection reflects this.

Art education: the Bulmershe art collection is strong in modern art and women's art as well as art education (The Main Library has a larger collection on western art from the middle ages onwards, but is less strong on modern art than Bulmershe Library.)

Drama education: Bulmershe Library has a strong drama collection as the library supports both study and research in this area. Institute of Education courses include PGCE Drama and Theatre, Arts and Deaf Studies; there are also Film, theatre and television courses.

Italian language education material is no longer purchased. Only French and German are covered on PGCE courses.

Possible areas for development include: sound recordings of core popular music and jazz albums for music education courses.

The focus of the collection is school based.

## Collecting level

The book collections primarily serve the teaching requirements of the undergraduate and taught postgraduate courses. The collections also aim to support higher degrees to a certain extent, although they are not at research level. Reference materials are kept up to date.

## Alternative access

### **Inter-library loans**

The Institute made a total of 110 inter-library loan requests during the academic year 2007/08; the majority of these were for journal articles.

### **Other information resources in the University**

South Africa Education Archive. This resource is funded by the Standing Conference on Studies in Education.

The Institute's Teaching Resource Base includes a unique and extensive library on Personal Construct Psychology in Education, part of the Research Centre of PCPE resources. This includes the Fay Fransella collection.

### **Use of other libraries**

A number of staff make use of the Institute of Education Library, London University.

## Selection, acquisition and stock editing

See the General Collection Development Statement for general principles:

**[www.reading.ac.uk/library/about-us/policies/lib-collection-policies.asp](http://www.reading.ac.uk/library/about-us/policies/lib-collection-policies.asp)**

Multiple copies are acquired of essential works on reading lists. The amount of time spent off-campus on placement by IIT Education students makes the Course Collection a somewhat less useful resource for high demand material than for some other Schools.

The Liaison Librarians make suggestions to academic staff for purchases after scanning publicity material received. The Liaison Librarians will also order items on reading lists which are not in stock. Reference works will normally be selected by the Liaison Librarians in consultation with the Institute.

The Liaison Librarians, in consultation with academic staff, selects material to be considered for withdrawal or relegation. Candidates for withdrawal include superseded textbooks in old editions, duplicate copies of books where usage does not warrant holding more than one copy, out of date material (excluding classic texts); and some of the material which duplicates holdings at the Main Library.

Because of the planned closure of Bulmershe Library, a major Collections Project will work on assimilating printed material into the Main Library. Some lower use material will be relegated to closed access storage, and the opportunity will be taken to withdraw some items which are currently held at both Library sites. The General Collection Development statement gives the criteria for decision making on relegation and withdrawal.