

Specialist libraries in London

Bishopsgate Institute (History of London, especially radical movements)

- Tube: Liverpool Street
- <https://www.bishopsgate.org.uk/archives-1/visiting-the-library>

British Library

- The library of last resort. Where you go if you cannot find what you want anywhere else. You must be 18+ to get a reader's ticket so, sadly, many EPQ students will be too young to use it. However, some of their collections are now on line. Check out their digital collections and online exhibitions.
- Tube / rail: King's Cross – St Pancras.
- www.bl.uk

British Museum Libraries

- Tube: Goodge Street, Tottenham Court Road, Russell Square, Holborn
- http://www.britishmuseum.org/research/libraries_and_archives.aspx

Caird Library [within National Maritime Museum] (Maritime / shipping / navigation)

- Rail: Greenwich or Maze Hill / DLR: Cutty Sark
- <https://www.rmg.co.uk/national-maritime-museum/caird-library>

Chatham House (Royal Institute of International Affairs) library

- Tube: Piccadilly Circus or Green Park
- <https://www.chathamhouse.org/library>

City Business Library

- Tube: Bank, St Paul's, Mansion House, Moorgate.
- <https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/business/economic-research-and-information/city-business-library/Pages/default.aspx>

Cochrane Library

- Not a physical library but a large on line library of medical research and trials. Though often written in highly technical language there is always a plain language summary. (See also NHS Evidence)
- <https://www.cochranelibrary.com/>

Francis Crick Institute (Advanced research in the Life and Bio-Medical Sciences)

- No public library facilities but publish their research online and do have periodic exhibitions in their foyer.
- Tube and rail: Kings Cross-St Pancras
- <https://www.crick.ac.uk/research/latest-publications/accessing-our-research>

George Padmore Institute Archive (Black British history)

- The school library had further information on the archive. Please see Mr Harvey or Ms Viegas for a copy.
- Tube and rail: Finsbury Park
- <https://www.georgepadmoreinstitute.org/>

Guildhall Library (History of London)

- Tube: Bank, Mansion House, Moorgate
- <https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do/guildhall-library/Pages/default.aspx>

Horniman Museum library (Ethnography, natural history, musical instruments)

- N.B. Limited opening times, by appointment only.
- Rail: Forest Hill
- <https://www.horniman.ac.uk/collections/library-collections>

Imperial War Museum Library

- N.B. Advance booking essential as much of their stock is now held off site at Duxford. A lot of their material is now online so check that first.
- Tube: Elephant & Castle, Lambeth North
- <https://www.iwm.org.uk/research/research-facilities>

Institut Francais (French language and culture)

- Tube: South Kensington
- <https://www.institut-francais.org.uk/la-mediatheque/#>

Kew Gardens Library

- N.B It is best to write / email in advance with your request. The library is open to students with a library card from a London borough.
- Rail: Kew Bridge Tube: Kew Gardens
- <https://www.kew.org/science/collections/library>

Museum of Freemasonry (Freemasonry, family history)

- Tube: Holborn
- <https://museumfreemasonry.org.uk/how-make-research-visit>

Lindley Library [Royal Horticultural Society] (Botanical art, garden history)

- Tube: Pimlico, St James' Park, Victoria
- <https://www.rhs.org.uk/education-learning/libraries-at-rhs/visit-the-libraries/lindley-library-london>

London Metropolitan Archives (London history, family history, picture archive of London).

- They also have regular exhibitions (see website for details).
- Tube: Farringdon
- <https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do/london-metropolitan-archives/Pages/default.aspx>

Marx Memorial Library (Politics / Marxism / socialism)

- Tube: Farringdon
- <https://www.marx-memorial-library.org/>

Museum of the Order of St John (History of the Order of St John, St John Ambulance and first aid).

- Prior booking essential.
- Tube: Farringdon
- <http://museumstjohn.org.uk/research/overview/>

The National Archives

- The official government archive for England and Wales.
- Tube/rail: Kew Gardens
- <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>

National Art Museum [within Victoria & Albert Museum]

- Tube: South Kensington
- <https://www.vam.ac.uk/info/national-art-library/>

National Poetry Library [within the Royal Festival Hall]

- Tube: Waterloo, Rail: Waterloo / Waterloo East
- <https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/venues/poetry-library>

Natural History Museum Library

- Tube: South Kensington
- <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/our-science/departments-and-staff/library-and-archives.html>

NHS Evidence

- Not a physical library but a huge online library of healthcare information. Some of it is only available to NHS staff but much of it is accessible to the public. (See also the Cochrane Library)
- <https://www.evidence.nhs.uk/>

RAF Museum

- Tube: Colindale
- <https://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/research/default/library-collection.aspx>

Reuben Library [within British Film Institute] (Film and television)

- Tube: Waterloo Rail: Waterloo, Waterloo East
- <http://www.bfi.org.uk/education-research/bfi-reuben-library>

RIBA Library (Architecture)

- NB They have two sites, one at the Royal Institution of British Architects at Portland Place and one at the Victoria & Albert Museum. Bring photo ID if coming to Portland Place. Booking in advance is strongly advised for the V&A site. Those interested in buildings and architecture might also consider visiting The Building Centre. This not a library but has regular exhibitions and talks. For further info see: <https://www.buildingcentre.co.uk/>
- Portland Place: Regent's Park, Oxford Circus
- V&A: South Kensington
- <https://www.architecture.com/contact-and-visit/riba-library>

Royal Philatelic Society Library

- Tube: Regent's Park
- <http://www.rpsl.org.uk/library.asp>

Royal United Services Institute library (Defence / war / military history)

- Tube: Charing Cross or Westminster
- <https://rusi.org/library>

Science Museum Library

- Tube: South Kensington
- <https://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/researchers/dana-research-centre-and-library>

St Bride's Foundation library (printing and publishing)

- N.B. Limited opening times, booking necessary.
- Tube: Blackfriars
- <http://www.sbf.org.uk/library/>

SOAS (School of Oriental and African Studies)

- Those who are not SOAS students are able to use the library if they have a valid research interest but students under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.
- <http://www.soas.ac.uk/library/>
- <https://www.soas.ac.uk/library/using/admission/childrenanda-levelstudents/>
- Russell Square or Goodge Street

Templar Study Centre [Within the National Army Museum] (History of the British Army)

- Tube: Sloane Square
- <https://www.nam.ac.uk/collections/templar-study-centre>

UCL Institute of Archaeology Library

- The library is primarily for the use of UCL students but “is open to people who are not UCL students and we’ve had students doing the Extended Project Qualification use the library previously with good results.” They ask that schools get in touch in advance if they have students who wish to use the library.
- Tube: Euston, Euston Square
- <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology/about-us/institute-archaeology-library>

Vaughan Williams Memorial Library [within Cecil Sharp House, HQ of the English Folk Dance and Song Society] (Folk music)

- Tube: Camden Town
- <https://www.vwml.org/>

Wiener Library (The Holocaust / Nazism)

- Tube: Russell Square
- <https://www.wienerlibrary.co.uk/>

Wellcome Library [Within the Wellcome Collection] (Medicine / health / welfare / medical history)

- Tube: Euston, Euston Square Rail: Euston
- <https://wellcomelibrary.org/collections/>

The Women's Library [Within the LSE]

- Tube: Temple, Holborn
- <http://www.lse.ac.uk/Library/Collections/Collection-highlights/The-Womens-Library>

Zoological Society of London Library

- Tube: Camden Town
- <https://www.zsl.org/about-us/zsl-library-collection>

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