Strategic Vision

A library empowers knowledge generation.

We connect people with ideas and with each other—enabling our community to meet, read, think, research, share, create new ideas, and make new discoveries.

Our library lies at the heart of a University of Bristol education, research, and civic endeavour.

bristol.ac.uk/library
Strategic Vision

_to create a world class University library that is representative of both the University and the City’s proud tradition of academic excellence with an innovative, forward-thinking spirit._

- Increase in provision and quality of learning and research facilities
- Improved student experience
- Increase in study seats
- Better integration with University services and the wider University
- Improved public access to collections and exhibitions
- Improved access to high demand resources for learning and teaching
- A sustainable building

bristol.ac.uk/library
Design Principles

Supporting well-being | a sense of relaxation and support

Inclusive and accessible | where diversity is valued

Inspirational | to delight and inspire innovation and creativity

Adaptable | seamless adaptation to new ways of working

Built to last | sustainable, contextual

bristol.ac.uk/library
**Design Principles**

- **Landmark**
  Completes a trio of buildings

- **Context & Heritage**
  Addresses the wider cityscape
  Integrates into the urban landscape

- **Civic**
  Becomes a gateway to the University
Design Principles

Massing
Adjustment to scale
Address immediate context

Beacon
Architectural and conceptual landmark
Contemporary addition to the wider cityscape

Greening
Health and wellbeing
Sustainable landscape

Campus Heart
Becomes the beating heart
## Building Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GIFA</td>
<td>14,399 m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Seats</td>
<td>1,920</td>
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<tr>
<td>Books Open</td>
<td>280,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mobile Racking</td>
<td>100,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Journals</td>
<td>60,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cultural Collections</td>
<td>Passive Archive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff</td>
<td>73 FTE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental standard</td>
<td>BREAMM Excellent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public ground floor</td>
<td>120 seat event space</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 exhibition galleries</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>40 seat café</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Creative lab &amp; maker space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Changing Places WC</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Building Information

- Atria to deliver daylight into the heart of the building
- Air source heat pumps recover heat from computer servers
- Designed to allow future layout and use changes
- Water efficient fixtures and fittings
- Biodiverse roof terraces
- BREEAM Excellent
- Cyclist facilities
- Roof mounted photovoltaics
- Highly efficient building systems
- High performance facade
- Enhanced ventilation levels
- Resilient to climate change
- Drainage strategy to minimise impact
- Nearby public bus station
Appearance

New University Library

Wills Memorial Tower
Building Organisation
“Libraries are vital spaces ... What, I'm allowed in? I can just read and write? It's such a gift, you don't even have to be a student.” (Writer-in-residence, Centre for Cultural Collections)
Post-Pandemic Design Review

We stress-tested the design and found it to anticipate accelerated trends. We made minor adaptations to the distribution of study and research spaces, digital scholarship facilities, and creative maker spaces.

**Education and Student Experience**
- Diversity of blended learning styles
- Digital-forward services and learning content
- Cross-university approaches to digital inclusion

**Research and Innovation**
- Open research and virtual reading rooms

**Global Civic University**
- Social inequality, isolation, and digital divide

"The digital divide is growing ... these facilities would change this narrative, enabling all students, especially the marginalised and disadvantaged, to access the equipment critical to academic success." (Bristol Scholar, statement to planning committee)