

The Library



Gloucester Library Relocation

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Where is the new library located?

Gloucester's new public library is set to open at the University of Gloucestershire's state-of-the-art City Campus, with its main entrance located on Northgate Street.

For precise directions, you can use **what3words**:

///deputy.across.reds

2. When will the relocation take place?

Key dates for the move:

- **Last day at Brunswick Road:** Saturday 27th September, 9am to 4pm
- **Library closure:** Monday 29th September to Sunday 12th October inclusive.
- **Grand opening of Gloucester Library at City Campus:** Monday 13th October, 9am to 7pm.

3. Why is the library relocating?

The current library is situated within an interconnected building comprising the public library and Museum of Gloucester.

Gloucester Library opened its doors to the public on 31st May 1900 and recently celebrated its 125th anniversary. In more recent years, maintaining and modernising the Grade II listed building, to reflect the evolving needs of our community, has become increasingly challenging.

The public library is split across two floors, which makes access for members of the public with a mobility disorder or with young children difficult.

The building presents access challenges for library staff who are required to operate across multiple areas of the library. Working areas are spread across five levels, including a basement. All areas have stepped entry and exit points, and not all accessible via the lift, therefore unsuitable for a member of staff with a mobility disorder.

The staff entry and exit point is also on Brunswick Road. Due to restrictions on external signage, it is frequently mistaken by passersby as a public entrance.

Gloucester Library cannot attract significant passing foot fall due to its location on Brunswick Road. The library itself has very little visibility at street level due to restrictions on external signage and the height of the windows. There is limited parking near the library, and it is situated away from the main car parks, bus stops and train station.

The new library is located at the newly constructed University of Gloucestershire, City Campus. This will give Gloucester Library a High Street presence and the opportunity to attract passing footfall from people in multiple directions.

This move marks an exciting new chapter for the Library Service and the wider community, providing modern, spacious and accessible surroundings for all visitors to enjoy. The new location will enable enhanced services and continue to deliver a vibrant programme of activities for people of all ages.

4. Will the library be closed during the move?

Yes, the current library at Brunswick Road will be closed for a two-week period. This temporary closure period is necessary to ensure the safe transfer of our collections, IT systems and for staff to settle into the new environment.

Please note, the closure will be considered for borrowed items. Due dates may be extended, and fines waived during the relocation period. You will be notified of any changes.

Any reservations left in Gloucester Library after Saturday 27th September 2025, and any reservations already in transit to Gloucester Library, cannot be collected during the closed period. This includes items reserved via the Music and Performing Arts service.

Reservations will have their collection date extended and will be made available for collection at our new location when it opens on Monday 13th October 2025.

During the closed period, you will be able to choose an alternative site to collect any new reservations and items can be returned to any Gloucestershire library.

5. What library services will be available during the move?

Alternative resources and locations

During this time, online resources will remain available for members to access digital services such as eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines, and eNewspapers. Read more about these resources at <https://gloslibraries.uk/digital-services>

We also encourage users to visit nearby libraries in the closure period which are accessible by public transport and or walking. Find your nearest library at <https://gloslibraries.uk/your-libraries>

Events and Activities

All events, activities, and groups will be postponed from Saturday 27th September 2025. We will use this time to reassess how we can support our community while working within the requirements of the new space. Once we are fully operational, and in a position to do so, we will share plans for reintroducing events and activities where feasible and appropriate to the space. We appreciate your patience during this transition.

Stay informed about the move and opening celebrations by visiting our website, [subscribing to our newsletter](#) or following us on social media

Find out more about the library service at gloslibraries.uk, including joining the library for free and getting access to borrow items, book onto events, and much more.

6. What will the new location offer?

The new Gloucester Library location means that we can offer greater flexibility, e.g.

- Increased shelving capacity and expanded collections
- A bespoke open plan space on one floor, welcoming and accessible to all
- Children's area with exciting new furniture and fittings
- A dedicated, self-contained Lab space, which can also be used for workshops and events
- Comfortable study areas and a meeting room, available for private hire
- Updated technology, such as mobile printing
- Opportunities to work with the University of Gloucestershire and others in the Kings Square and Kings Walk vicinity
- Closer to main public transport hubs, shops and other partners

7. Are you planning to change any of the library services?

All events, activities, and groups will be postponed from **Saturday 27th September**. We will use this time to reassess how we can support our community while working within the requirements of the new space. Once we are fully operational, and in a position to do so, we will share plans for

reintroducing events and activities where feasible and appropriate to the space. We appreciate your patience during this transition.

Some services associated with Gloucester Library, i.e. the Music and Performing Service, the Ask Us service and Gloucestershire County Council's Enablement 'Drop In' service, will remain at the current Brunswick Road location.

8. Will you be changing the staff or reducing their hours?

No, the current Gloucester Library team will relocate to the new City Campus location and their working hours will not be reduced.

9. Will staff be available to help during the transition?

The Library Helpline is available to help as usual via phone, email or online form. For more information, please visit gloslibraries.uk/contact-us

The Ask Us service is also available via gloslibraries.uk/ask-us

When Gloucester Library opens at City Campus on Monday 13th October 2025, Library Assistants will be available to welcome and help you with the new location.

10. Will you be changing or reducing the opening hours?

There will be no change to the current opening hours when Gloucester Library opens at City Campus on Monday 13th October 2025.

11. What will happen to the current books?

Where the book stock in the current library is in good condition it would move to the proposed new location. New books would also be bought to supplement the current levels.

Approximately 40,000 items of current book stock will move to the new library at City Campus.

Alongside our regular stock orders, an additional 2,525 new items have been ordered and delivered to the new Gloucester Library.

12. Will there be room to study or use laptop facilities?

Yes, there will be a variety of seating and furniture available in the library for study and/or laptop use.

13. Will The Lab be moving to the new library?

Yes, The Lab has a dedicated space in the library, which can be used flexibly and exclusively for workshops and events.

A more contained area will also enable The Lab staff to provide more appropriate and effective direct support to customers with equipment.

14. Will you be re-using any of the furniture or fittings?

Yes. Where it is appropriate, suitable furniture and fittings is being moved to the new location. Any furniture or fittings that are not relocated to City Campus and can be re-used, will be moved to other libraries within the County.

15. How can I stay informed about the relocation?

Updates will be shared via email newsletters, social media, the library website, and posted notices.

Helpful links

- [Visit the library website](#)
- [Sign up for library updates](#)
- [Follow us on Facebook](#)

- [Follow us on Instagram](#)
- [Find your Gloucestershire nearest library](#)
- [Contact us](#)

16. How can I volunteer or help?

We welcome community support!

Please contact the library to learn about volunteer opportunities.

A new chapter for Gloucester

We would like to thank our members and the wider community for their patience and support during this transition. The new Gloucester Library at the City Campus will offer improved facilities, flexible community spaces, and continue to offer free access to books, learning resources and cultural events.

We look forward to welcoming everyone to our new home this Autumn. For further information and updates, please visit the Gloucestershire County Council website, your local library, or contact the library at gloslibraries.uk/contact-us