
Podcast tour : 1st Floor

Welcome to the Library audio tour of the 1st floor. To guide you through this podcast tour, you will see numbered stop signs on the walls, pillars and shelf ends throughout the Library. After each stop you will be asked to press pause to give you time to find the next stop point on your tour. The audio tours and accompanying map with numbered stops can be downloaded from the Library webpage. Please take note of the fire exits, indicated in green on the map. The use of mobile phones is not permitted on this floor.

The 1st floor reading room

Once you reach the 1st floor reading room, turn left and continue left. Press pause as you head for stop number one, on the reference shelves with the red signs.

1st floor stop number one. The Book collection

Right in front of you is the reference section, for dictionaries, directories and encyclopedias, with red signs on the shelf ends.

On the first floor, you will find books and periodicals with shelf numbers zero to 699, covering computing, education, languages and the social sciences. The book stock is arranged in an L shape, and you are now at the beginning of this main sequence. Please see our user guides or web pages for information on loan periods and loan allowances for your course.

To your left you will see the laptop area and extra silent study room, where there is a wireless hub. Please look for the white plug sockets if you need to plug in your laptop: further sockets are available in the main reading room. To your right are Library catalogue terminals with blue screens, which you will need to use to find any books.

Now turn to your left, where you will see the School Practice collection, with its blue signs. Press pause and head for stop number two on the blue pillar to your right.

1st floor stop number two. The School Practice collection

The School Practice collection contains over 20,000 items for education students on teaching practice. You are standing in front of the book collection, which includes children's books and teachers' materials from early years to A level. Non-fiction is arranged on the shelves by subject number.

Looking to your right, towards the fire exit, you will see that the fiction is shelved in separate sequences: infant, junior and senior fiction, and picture books. These are followed by audio CDs and cassettes, while CD-ROMs, DVDs and videos are shelved amongst the books.

If you turn back the way you came you will see more of the School Practice collection in a separate room, opposite stop number one. Press pause as you head for stop number three.

1st floor stop number three. The School Practice room.

Please go in and have a look around. This room is open at all times. The collection is divided into several sections: project packs in the central filing cabinets; big books and posters on the racks; and kits and teaching objects in boxes on the shelves. CD-ROMs can be played on the PC in the corner.

Most items in School Practice are available as 3 week loans which you can renew. Education students can borrow 20 items from School Practice, but all students are welcome to use the collection.

Now walk back outside to the reading room. Walk ahead a few paces alongside the reference shelves, and turn right down the middle aisle towards the white swing doors. Press pause and look out for stop four on the journals shelves to your right.

1st floor stop number four. The Journals collection

Journals or periodicals are kept in a separate sequence on the corner of the book sequence, where you see the pink shelf end signs. Journals cannot be borrowed, but you may take them downstairs for photocopying.

The main book sequence continues after the journals. Another section that you may find useful is Oversize for large format books. You will see these at the end of the main sequence, with the orange shelf signs.

Ahead of you and to your left is the main reading room area, with fire exits on the corners. Please remember that the reading rooms are silent study areas. Keep your mobile phone switched off or on silent mode, and take care not to disturb other users. You can talk or use your phone on the ground floor.

Please press pause and walk ahead through the white doors into the IT Services area, where you will find stop number five.

1st floor stop number five. IT Services

Once through the double doors you are in the open access computing area. On your left initially there are PCs with Macs further along. You log on using your IT Services username and password. If you do not have your username and password take your Goldsmiths card to the Helpdesk on the ground floor.

Your Computer Services account will let you log on to the Goldsmiths network; allow you to print and photocopy using PCounter; give you disk space to store your work; and access to your College email account. Note that the Library only sends overdue and courtesy notices to College email accounts, so you should check this regularly.

Press pause and head for stop number six, on the 3rd pillar along.

1st floor stop number six. Computer teaching rooms

When you reach stop number six you will see both PCs and Macs with music keyboards. These have Sibelius software used for writing music. Now turn your back to the windows.

You will see doors on your left and right to two Teaching Rooms. The one on the left has PCs and the one on the right Macs. You can use these computers if there is no class booked. Weekly printed timetables for classes are put on the doors. You must leave when a class is due.

Note that all the Teaching Rooms and the main open access area are designated as Quiet Study Areas.

Directly ahead of you there is the door to the staircase. On either side are two printers which can print in black and white or colour. You can print from these using your PCounter account. You activate this using your IT Services username and password in the Value Loaders by the library staircase on the ground floor. Once activated use the Value Loaders to put money on your PCounter account as necessary.

Press pause and continue to move towards the window to your left at the end of the building. You will find stop seven on the 7th pillar along.

1st floor stop number seven. Printers and informal group study area

To your left you will see two more black & white and colour printers. Behind a small jutting wall to the left of them is a fire exit.

Separated from the printers by a glass screen is a group study area with sofas, stools and low tables but, as with the rest of the floor, please only bring bottled water here. On the wall opposite the seating are four PCs to be used while standing for short tasks, for example, checking email.

Go down the short staircase to the right of the end window.

1st floor stop number eight. Group study area

On the right at the bottom of the stairs is another Teaching Room. To your left is a Group Study area with both Macs and PCs. There are also some empty tables with electrical sockets to enable group study with laptops.

Once you have looked round, retrace your steps to stop six and return to the ground floor via the staircase. Note that this staircase has open banisters and should not be used by children visiting the library. If you need to bring in your children please use the staircase that links the ground floor and library reading rooms.

This is the end of the 1st floor podcast tour.

[This tour was recorded in December 2009.
Music by 'vsoscarsizer', with permission.]