



Homerton College Library



Special Collections

Children's literature collection, multimedia, local collection

You are probably quite familiar with Homerton College Library as a working undergraduate library, but the Library is also home to several special collections that are unique to Homerton. This leaflet is designed to introduce you to these special collections.

Local Collection

The Local Collection is shelved on the ground floor of the Library and contains books, maps, pamphlets and journals which focus on Cambridge and the surrounding region. This is a varied collection which includes histories of Cambridge University and the Colleges, books about fenland wildlife, local archaeology and much more. The collection is a mixture of both modern and historical items, all of which are reference only.

Multimedia Collection

The Multimedia Collection is located on the second floor of the Library and includes hundreds of DVDs, CDs and printed music (scores, miniature scores and sets of parts). These are all borrowable in the same way as books.

Music Hire Service

Homerton, in partnership with Christ's College, runs a Music Hire Service. Members of Christ's and Homerton can borrow scores and parts from either library free of charge (there is a small charge for members of other colleges).

If you need the music for a concert we can be flexible on the hire period to suit you, just ask a member of staff. To view the joint catalogue, please visit <https://musichire.christs.cam.ac.uk/>

Children's Literature Collection

Due to our history as a Teacher Training College, Homerton is unique among the Cambridge Colleges in being home to a large collection of around 10,000 children's books, 3,000 rare books and 6,000 children's annuals. This collection stretches from the 1800s to the present day, and new books are purchased regularly. The books range from early years through to teens with particular strengths in playable/moveable and illustrated books.

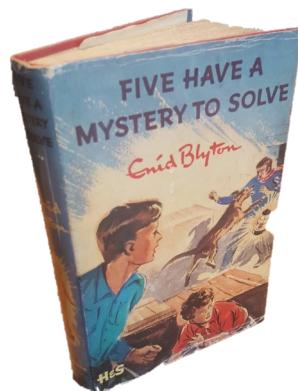
The rare book collection contains material from the 1800s onwards including a horn book, various ABCS, 19th century chapbooks, material from The Religious Tract Society as well as non-fiction material and 20th century classics.

Highlights include: The Tale of Peter Rabbit by Beatrix Potter- a copy from one of the rare first three printings, a first edition of Marigold Garden by Kate Greenaway as well as a first edition of Winnie the Pooh by A.A. Milne.

However, alongside such well known classics, researchers will be able to find unique or unusual items that were marketed for children and therefore previously deemed 'unworthy' of academic study. These include children's annuals, pamphlets and other ephemera. A particular strength of the collection is moveable or playable books include pop ups such as The Dog's Dinner Party and an early Speaking Book.



The **Lealan Collection** comprises of a broad range of children's annuals, novels, anthologies and non-fiction. Highlights include: *Five have a Mystery to Solve* by Enid Blyton, rare with dust jacket (1962) and a complete run of *The British Girl's Annual* of 1910-1934. The Lealan collection is currently in the process of being catalogued and new entries are added to iDiscover on a daily basis.



Our **borrowable children's literature collection** is located on the 2nd floor of the Library. This browsable collection contains literary criticism alongside fiction books from the 1960s to the present day.

Thanks to a generous donation by Professor Maria Nikolajeva, the Children's Literature Collection includes over 150 versions of Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking-Glass*, in many different editions and languages. These are all shelved on the 2nd floor at shelf mark **823 CAR/NIK**. This donation also included a number of *Alice in Wonderland* related artefacts (some of which are for reference use only).

A number of 'big books' that are designed for story-time are also available to borrow. These are kept in two large display boxes on the 2nd floor.

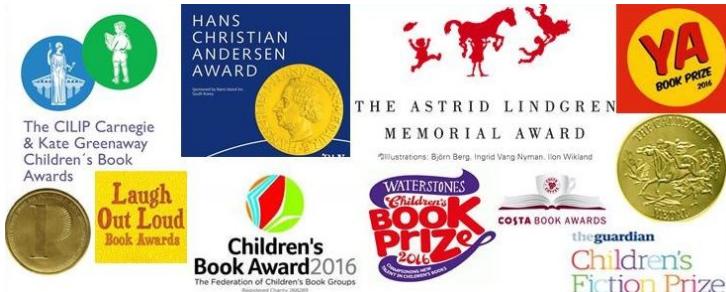


Award winning children's literature

The Library purchases the award winners for the following distinguished UK and international children's literature awards:

Caldecott, Carnegie, Costa, Greenaway, Guardian, Michael Printz, Branford Boase, Bookseller, Hans Christian Anderson.

The Library holds all of the winners of the annual Guardian children's prize since it was first awarded in 1967.



Collection Access

All of our children's books and rare books are catalogued and searchable on iDiscover: www.idiscover.cam.ac.uk. The Lealan Collection is in the process of being catalogued.

Please email or ring the Library in advance to arrange a specific time to visit if you wish to view anything from the rare book collection. A member of staff will then be on hand to give you a brief introduction to the collection and help with handling of any materials you wish to view. Books requested by researchers are fetched by staff, Monday-Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm.

All of the books in the Children's Literature Collection on the 2nd floor are borrowable to any member of Homerton College. Access is granted at the Librarian's discretion to those studying children's literature at other Colleges or institutions.

Children's literature in Cambridge

Developed in conjunction with staff at the Education Faculty Library, a children's literature libguide is available online to gain an insight into children's literature collections in Cambridge.

[Cambridge Libraries](#) / [LibGuides](#) / [Physical and Digital Collections](#) / [Children's Literature Collections at Cambridge](#) / [Home](#)

Children's Literature Collections at Cambridge: Home

An introduction to the range of Children's Literature collections in Cambridge and the resources and services available to students and staff

[Home](#) | [Children's Literature available at Education](#) | [Children's Literature available at Homerton](#) | [Children's Literature available at Lucy Cavendish](#)
[Children's Literature available at Newnham](#) | [Children's Literature available at SPRU](#) | [Children's Literature available at the University Library](#) | [Organisations](#)

[Prizes & awards](#)

[Welcome](#)

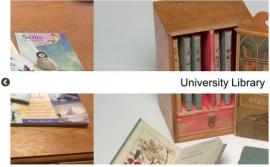
This guide has been created for you if you are studying or interested in children's literature as part of a teaching-related, education-related or English literature trips at Cambridge University.

The guide provides an introduction to the collections that you are able to access across Cambridge and includes a number of useful links to key organisations and prominent children's literature awards which act as a useful starting point for your literature searching and current awareness.

If you have any questions, please get in touch.

[Children's Literature Blog](#)

[Children's Literature](#) at the
University of Cambridge
a postgraduate perspective



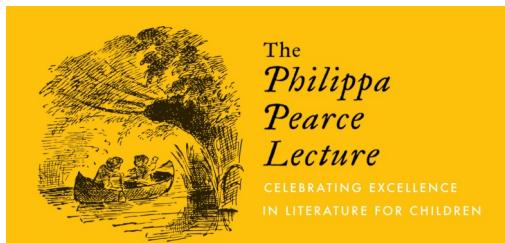
University Library

[Centre for Children's Literature](#)



<https://libguides.cam.ac.uk/childrensliterature>

The Library has strong connections with the Centre for Research in Children's Literature at Cambridge and the Philippa Pearce Lecture, which is hosted annually at Homerton College.



<http://www.pearcelecture.com/>

[http://
www.educ.cam.ac.uk/
research/groups/
childrensliterature/
index.html](http://www.educ.cam.ac.uk/research/groups/childrensliterature/index.html)



**Centre for Research in
Children's Literature at
Cambridge**

Homerton College Archive

The College Archive contains a wide range of material dating from the eighteenth century onwards, related to the history of the College and the various buildings that it has occupied in Cambridge and London.

Student records in the Archive contain significant material about the education of women teachers in Cambridge and the student experience. This includes examples of students work, particularly art and craft skills and biological science. However student records form only one part of the archive. The Archive also contains clothes, medals, silverware and other memorabilia.

From 1730 the College was administered by the King's Head Society and sent its students to a number of different non-conformist academies in London. The King's Head Society and the Congregational Board of Education ran the College jointly from 1754 until the King's Head Society was dissolved in 1817. The archive contains minute books and annual reports of the Congregational Board from 1843 - 1909, and reports by successive Homerton College Principals.

From 1768 the College was based at Homerton High Street in the east end of London and became known as Homerton Academy. The archive contains some material about the College's history in London, including the rebuilding of the College in 1824, complementary to collections in the Dr Williams's Library, London and the London Metropolitan Archives.

Homerton Academy moved to Cambridge in 1895. The buildings previously belonged to Cavendish College, founded by Joseph Lloyd Brereton. Brereton's papers came to the Homerton Archive and contain much of what is known about Cavendish College.

There is an extensive photographic archive, most of which relates to the Cambridge period of the College's history.

For all enquiries relating to the Archive, please contact the College Archivist, Svetlana Paterson at archives@homerton.cam.ac.uk

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01223 747260

library@homerton.cam.ac.uk