

Free learning resources from Hertfordshire Libraries

Knowing where to find free and reliable information resources is an important part of education. The library offers a gateway to such resources and Hertfordshire Libraries can help, particularly in these times of online learning.

Our **Reference Library Online** has a range of resources that library members (it's free to join) can use for free at home, or anywhere. They are perfect for helping with homework, research, study, or just for fun. All the resources are reliable and from trusted and established publishers.

Here's a quick introduction to just some of the online resources you and your students may find most useful:

- Britannica Online - the online version of the complete Encyclopaedia Britannica. There are three versions available depending on students' level: junior (suitable for Key stage 1 & 2), student (suitable for Key stage 3 & 4) and adult (Key stage 4 & 6th Form)
- Credo Reference – this is like having your own reference library, ideal for research projects and homework. Search or browse over 1300 subject-specific titles from reputable publishers. This is aimed more at older students, but it also includes 66 titles from DK Eyewitness collection, suitable for younger students.
- Oxford English Dictionary and Oxford Dictionaries Pro – dictionaries from Oxford University Press, to explore the English language with expert guidance on style, usage, grammar and spelling. This also includes French, Spanish, German, Italian, Russian, Chinese, Arabic and Portuguese dictionaries
- Archive newspapers – search or browse digital version of newspapers (the Times 1785-2014, the Sunday Times 1822-2006, Illustrated London News 1842-2003). This would be most suitable for older students, particularly to see how past events were reported. This resource could be used for History, Media Studies, English, and Social Studies.

One important point: due to the terms and conditions attached to the resources, we are not allowed to offer school memberships. Only individual library members can access them. Anyone can join for free at herts.spydus.co.uk, though children under 16 will need a parent or guardian to sign up for them.