



UNIVERSITY OF
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Going Unlimited.

Acquisitions' response to
the pandemic at UoB.

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Francesca Tondi – f.tondi@bham.ac.uk



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Acquisitions Team. Who we are.

Andrew Loverock
Acquisitions Team Leader

John Gilbert
Learning Support
Specialist

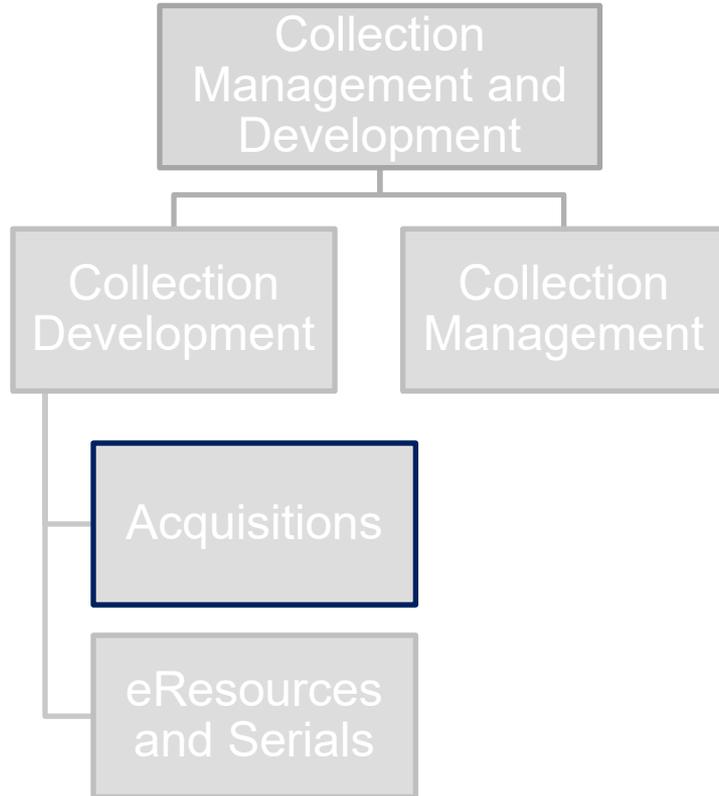
Matt Hunt
Francesca Tondi
Ebook Specialist

Sarah Connor-Bell
Interlibrary Loans
Specialist

Acquisitions Information Assistants

Francesca Tondi
Sharon Newey
Jennifer Palmer

Maria Marras
Catherine Taylor
Alison Dingle



The wider picture.



Main Library and Green Heart. Copyright University of Birmingham

- Print collection just under 2 million items.
- Access to over 866 thousand ebooks.

(2020/21 data)



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What we do.

- **ResourceLists@Bham**
- **Ebooks and streaming services acquisition**
- **Print books, DVDs, CDs**
- **Incoming ILL and Document Supply**





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March 2020:

A brief timeline of events:

13th March - gathering emergency phone numbers

16th March – transition to online teaching

17th March - Working from Home

20th March – restricted campus operations

18th May - Print ordering suspended with immediate effect

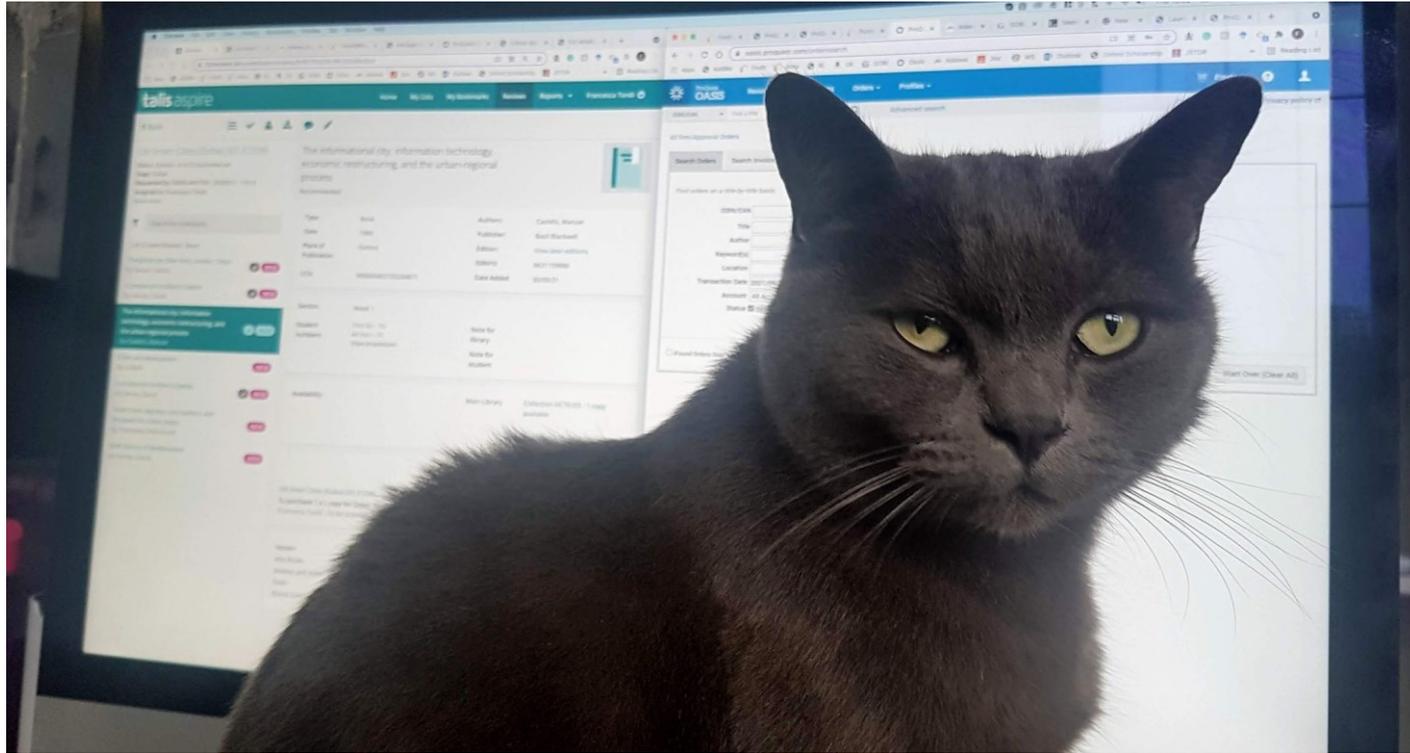
2020/21 Academic Year – Framework for Educational Resilience





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A new way of working.





New Ways of Working

- ❑ **E-first becomes E-only – Unlimited prioritised**
- ❑ **Zoom / Teams**
- ❑ **Workflows go digital**
- ❑ **Help from other teams – RLs**
- ❑ **ILL goes digital**



Sheldon Kennedy on
Unsplash

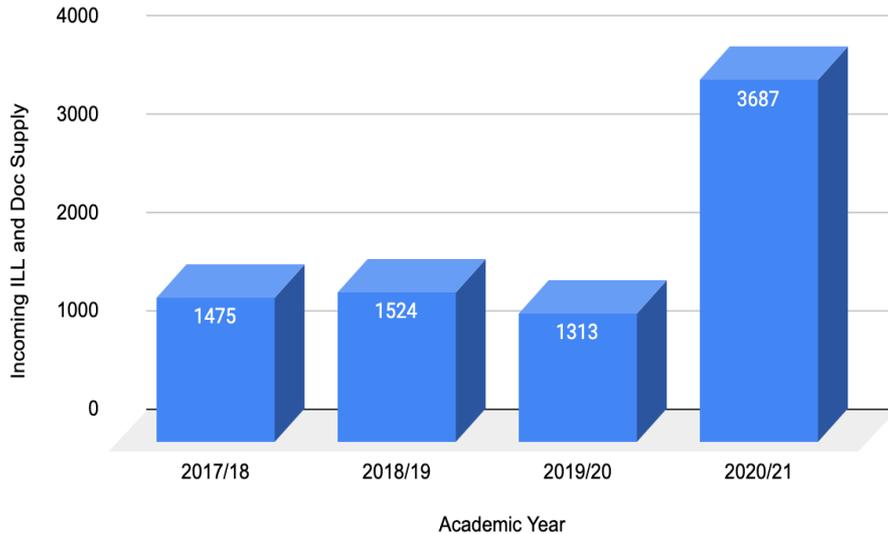


Kanashi on Unsplash

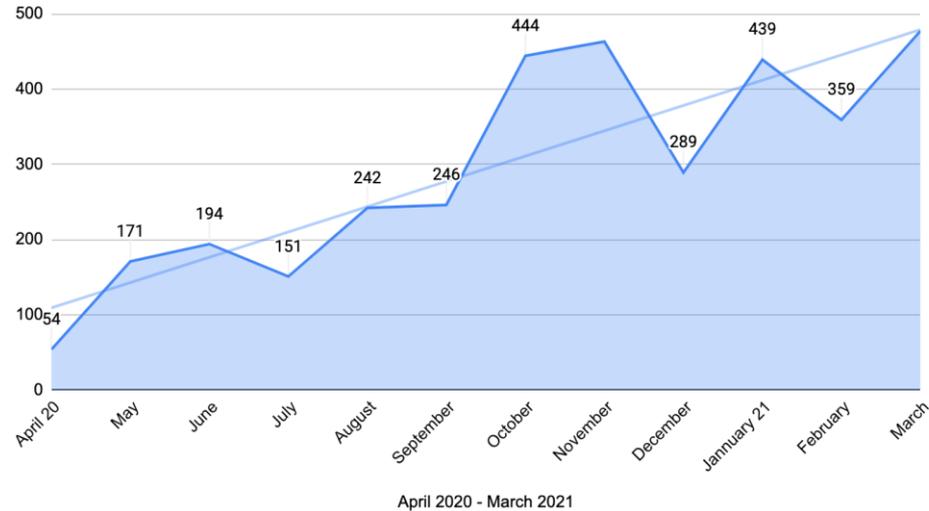


Document supply and ILL.

Incoming ILL and Doc Supply



Monthly number of requests



Before:

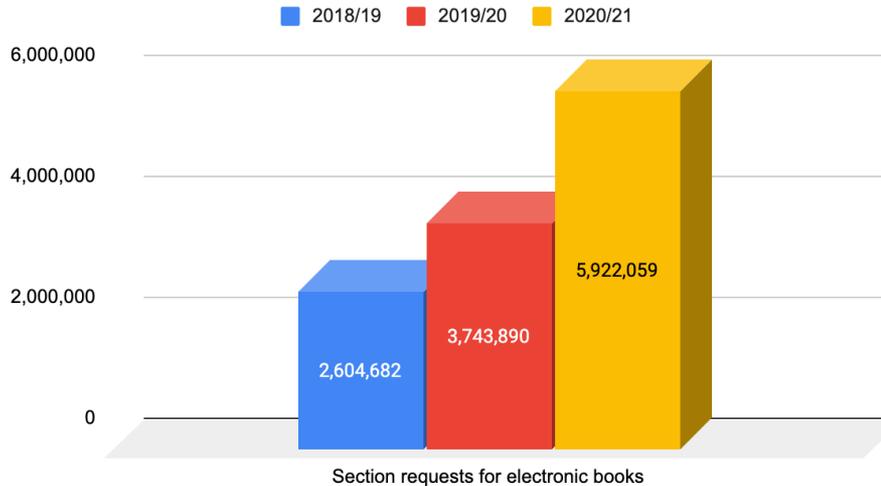
- £5 fee for users
- average of 1,400 request per AY

After:

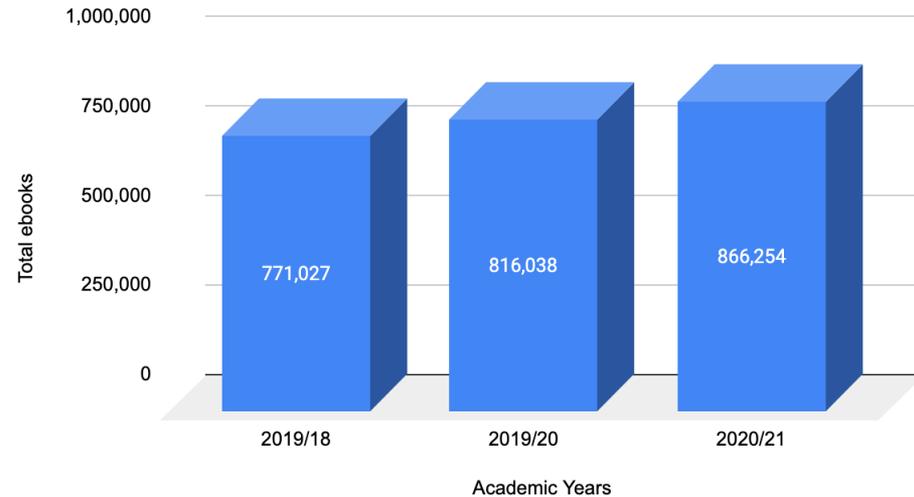
- Fees removed
- Increase of over 2500 requests (163%)



Section requests for electronic books



Total number of ebooks

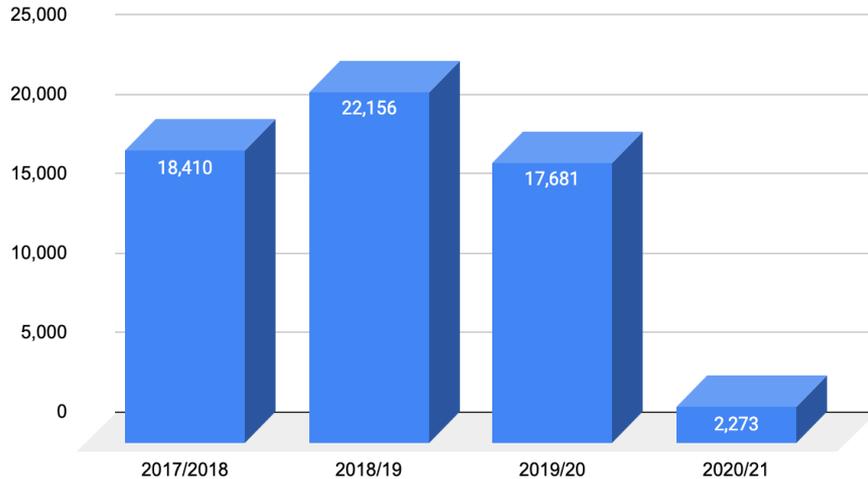


- Ebook licences owned between 2018/19 and 2020/21 = +12%
- Section requests growth between 2018/19 and 2020/21 = +127%

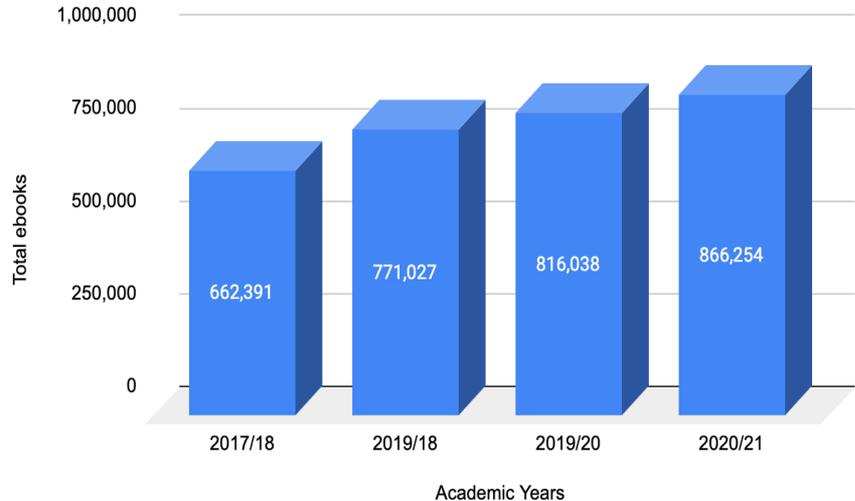


Print vs ebook acquisitions.

Number of print additions to stock 17/18 > 20/21



Total number of ebooks

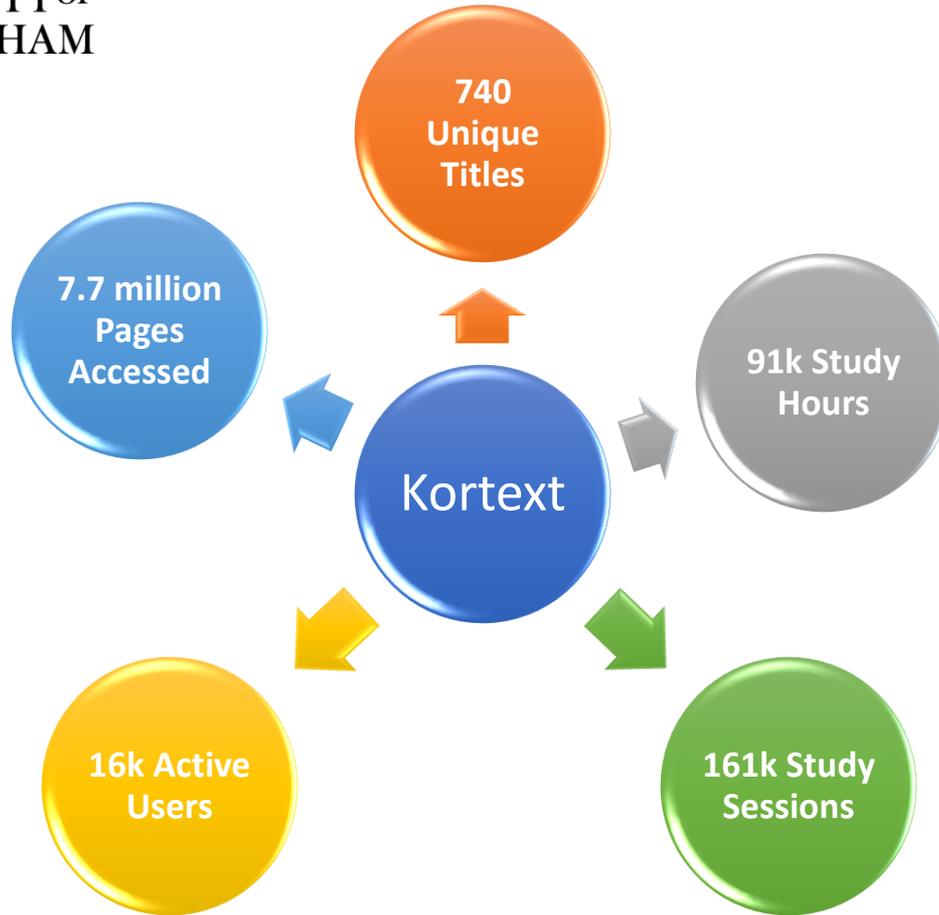


- No significant variations on total number of stock but.. drastic reduction of print acquisition in 20/21

- Steady increase in the number of ebooks
- 32% more unique titles since 2017/18
- Licence policy change > going unlimited



Vita Lian on Unsplash





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Kortext: A Big Success... (with a but)

- Top 10 titles = 44% of usage of usage
- 72% of usage attributed to the top 50 - leaving quite a long tail of under-used titles.
- 15% of modules (based on c5,000 modules)
- Kortext inexperienced when it comes to library supply
- Very expensive!





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**What does the
future hold?**





What does the future hold?

- ❑ **Evaluation – finding future direction – Building on the wins!**
- ❑ **Rapid ILL (Pilot)**
- ❑ **E-prioritised? - Unlimited***
- ❑ **Valuable experienced gained with etextbooks – armed with experience and information.**
- ❑ **Hybrid working**

