

Ada. National College for Digital Skills.

Facilities and Services



Key Facilities and Services

- library resources
- computing facilities
- technical support and helpdesk
- catering Services
- multimedia
- workshop, laboratory, studio or study areas and other specialist
- accommodation available to support the programme.
- equipment required to be provided by the student.

Introduction:

Ada, The National College for Digital Skills provides a range of learning and information services that include e-learning content, electronic diagnostic tools as well as books, e-books and e-journals. All students receive a Facilities, Library, E-library and IT induction upon enrolling at the College.

1. Library Resources:

Ada's collection of collated online material is accessed through the Google Apps for Education VLE. All HE students will have access to our growing collection of quality online resources that are handpicked by course lecturers, skills coaches and other relevant members of staff. These include:

- Full text academic journals
- Subject specific databases
- Electronic books
- Databases of images, maps, datasets, statistics and other resources
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a) MyiLibrary:

All HE students will have access to MyiLibrary – an industry leading e-content aggregation platform for public, academic and professional libraries around the world

This unique platform offers users the ability to acquire and access digital content on an individual title, publisher-specific or subject collection basis, based on their unique requirements and resources.

With nearly 250,000 titles currently available, covering all major academic disciplines and an additional 5,000 titles being added monthly, MyiLibrary is one of the fastest-growing and most comprehensive online e-content platforms on the market with publishers including:

Encyclopedia Britannica, Taylor Francis, McGraw-Hill, Wiley, Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, Harvard University Press and Springer and Elsevier.

b) Ebrary

Ebrary is an online digital library of full texts of over 70,000 scholarly e-books. It provides a set of online database collections that combine scholarly books from over 435 academic, trade and professional publishers.

Ebrary provides a rich array of publications including books, journals, magazines, maps and other publications. Their aggregated collections cover a broad range of disciplines including: business and economics, computers, technology and engineering, humanities as well as physical and social sciences.

c) Github

All students will create a new Ada specific Github account when they enroll in their digital skills course.

Millions of developers use GitHub to build personal projects, support their businesses, and work together on open source technologies.

Github is a vital online repository for Ada students and a source of inspiration as well as collaboration.

d) Physical Resources

The College commits to providing adequate copies of core textbook and supporting material as specified in its degree programme specification to support students to learn onsite at the College using physical resources as well as e-resources.

In addition the College, as it matures and grows, will provide an ever-growing bank of physical resources related to its programmes of study. These will include books, magazines and journals.

e) Proximity to the British Library

Given the College's physical proximity to the British Library (20 mins door to door), all students will be encouraged to join the British Library and access its vast array of physical and electronic resources and to consider it as place of study beyond the College.

2. Computing Facilities:

All students will be provided with a unique user login and free wifi access.

All students will have volume-defined printing permissions

All students will have access to a 2016 Desktop computer for their labs based classes and seminars. These include a high-powered graphics card for more complex activities, particularly those using dynamic VFX.

All students will have access to a laptop through Ada to continue their studies outside of their formal learning environment.

All students will have the ability to BYOD and connect to the College's network using a secure password.

SmoothWall will monitor all students internet access. Where concerns are raised about a student's online activity the College will be able to view the individual's recent browsing history to check for unusual behavior. If any such behavior is identified then it will be referred using the appropriate channels to relevant SafeGuarding and prevent Agenda designated officers.

Technical Support and Helpdesk:

The College offers a technical support helpline to its IT support partner – European Electronique (EE). They will provide high quality, on-going remote support.

This is complemented by the support of an on-site technician once-a-week.

This is further complimented by an emergency response service should their be a network or administrator issue that interrupts student and staff connectivity for more than 2 hours.

Students will receive an IT induction upon their enrolment at the College.

3. Catering Services:

The College offers a kitchen area for the preparation of hot and cold food with fridges and cupboards for storage purposes and a sink for the washing of dishes and food preparation.

A boiling water tap as well as a water cooler is provided.

A snacks and a drinks vending machine are provided offering a range of healthy (and not so healthy) snacks and drinks.

A sandwich man is on site daily during the weekdays at lunchtime to offer a range of cold lunches including meal deals.

Students are able to access a wide variety of cafes, supermarkets and convenience stores within 5 minutes walk of the College building.

4. Multimedia:

The College has a BOYD policy that allows students to gain wifi access on any enabled device free of charge. Every classroom contains a TV screen that can be easily connected to using an HDMI cable. There are also a number of moveable screens capable for use in a range of settings.

The main collaboration space for the College has a projector, screen and sound system to allow for presentations and other large group activities

The College also has a large number of fixed TV screen around the building to make students aware of key messages and opportunities for them along with noticeboards.

5. Specialist Accommodation and Equipment:

As outlined previously, students will have access to high specification desktops and laptops for their work that have sufficient capacity to handle all the course content of the degree programme. These are provided in dedicated HE learning labs.

6. Equipment required to be provided by the student:

Students are able to BYOD should they wish. However there is no need for this as the College can provide both desktops and laptops for study on site at the College.

Should a student wish to continue their studies away from the College campus then they will need to do so on their own device.

Should the student not be able to access a device they can approach the College for additional support. The College commits to consider each student's case on an individual basis and may award discretionary allocation of laptops to students based on their personal circumstances if deemed necessary to be successful on their course of study.

VERSION	AUTHOR	DATE	CHANGES
V1	Joe Nutt	14.12.16	First draft