

Education Policy.

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1	The DEI is an Educational Charity. Our founders established the Institution in 1813: '...for promoting the general diffusion of Science, Literature and the Arts, and for illustrating the Natural and Civil History of the county of Devon and the History of the City of Exeter.'	
1.1	<p>The DEI became a Charitable Trust in 1989. Our charitable objects are:</p> <p>'The advancement of public education particularly in the History, Literature and Arts of the County of Devon, the City of Exeter and of the South West of England generally and particularly by the provision and maintenance of a Library, Reading Rooms and educational facilities' and</p> <p>'The advancement of heritage by the preservation of number 7 Cathedral Close Exeter for the public benefit as a building of historic and architectural interest and value.'</p> <p>Education is the beating heart of the DEI and our ongoing strategic aims reflect this purpose.</p>	
2	We aim to:	
2.1	Welcome people of all ages and abilities to enjoy and learn from our building and collection.	
2.2	Provide a memorable programme of activities which inspire, inform and provide enjoyment to members, visitors and groups.	
2.3	Promote the DEI as a leading centre for study by continuing to develop and enable access to our rich collections and archives, collaborating in scholarly research and creating outstanding displays [and publications?]	
2.4	Engage and inspire diverse audiences with excellent learning and engagement opportunities that encourage discovery, spark imaginations and offer life-enhancing experiences.	
2.5	Participate in Exeter's cultural networks and aim to be at the heart of the creative, social and economic development of Exeter and Devon.	
3	The benefits of public education:	
3.1	The benefits of public education are far reaching and life enhancing.	
3.2	Through our robust evaluation procedures, we are able to demonstrate that they are also specific and evidence based.	
3.4	We believe that there is educational value to each individual interaction with the collection, whether it be an in-depth academic study or a fleeting visit.	
3.5	We believe that the printed book remains the most efficient vehicle for the transmission of ideas that has yet to be invented.	

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4	People who visit or become members of the DEI benefit by:	
4.1	Increasing their knowledge and understanding of Exeter's heritage and the history of knowledge;	
4.2	Developing new skills through our volunteering opportunities;	
4.3	Participating in educational and social activities which foster a sense of community;	
4.4	Gaining inspiration and enjoyment from our unique collection;	
4.5	The ability to access a tranquil and intellectual space away from the commercial world;	
4.6	These benefits are made possible by our ongoing commitment to preserve and conserve a building and collection of historic significance and through the promotion and preservation of the printed word.	
5	Participation in Education:	
5.1	The Devon & Exeter Institution is committed to offering educational opportunities to people of all ages and abilities.	
5.2	We will work with the following groups using appropriate learning strategies for each:	
6	Membership:	
6.1	People are invited to become members of the Institution subject to identification checks and the payment of an annual subscription.	
6.2	Members are able to use the library comprising over thirty thousand books, dating predominantly from the early 19 th Century to the present day.	
6.3	Members are supported to use the collection by the librarian and the library team.	
6.4	Members have borrowing rights for books dating from the past 100 years (and earlier at the discretion of the librarian).	
6.5	Members are able to make use of dedicated space for study and research.	
6.6	We offer a programme of educational activities, cultural events, groups and lectures for members and their guests.	
7	University of Exeter:	

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7.1	The Devon and Exeter Institution has a close working relationship with the University of Exeter.	
7.2	We offer students and staff at the University of Exeter access to the Institution which is currently free of charge.	
7.3	We offer space to the University of Exeter for lectures, advanced studies, meetings and symposia.	
7.4	We offer formalised internships, projects and volunteering opportunities for students.	
8	Junior Membership:	
8.1	Children and young people under the age of 18 are invited to become Junior Members for an annual subscription.	
8.2	There is a monthly Bookworms Club for under 8s which is open to Junior Members and their parents / carers.	
8.3	Work experience placements are offered to young people in Exeter of 14 years and over.	
8.4	Junior Members over the age of 11 are supported to access the library independently by the librarian and the library team.	
8.5	Staff working directly with children are subject to the appropriate Safeguarding checks.	
9	Schools and formal learning:	
9.1	The DEI has a commitment to working with and through schools, colleges and universities.	
9.2	We offer bespoke workshops for school groups from Key Stages 2 – 5 which are currently free of charge	
9.3	Our collection is used to support and enrich the National Curriculum but not be constrained by it.	
9.4	We welcome group bookings from colleges and Universities who are offered bespoke sessions and tours.	
10	Group bookings:	
10.1	The DEI welcomes group bookings from specialist academic groups and community groups.	
10.2	Groups are supported with navigation and interpretation of the library by the Librarian and library team.	
11	The general public:	

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11.1	The general public are invited to the Institution on Wednesday afternoons when free tours are offered.	
11.2	We offer a programme of free lunchtime lectures monthly throughout the year, which aim to attract those of working age who are otherwise unable to access the Institution.	
11.3	The DEI participates in national cultural events such as Heritage Open Days.	
11.4	We are proactive in recruiting new members and any prospective member is given a tour of the Institution upon request.	
11.5	Initial research enquiries are free of charge and thereafter a temporary membership can be purchased or a research fee charged.	
12	Displays and Digital:	
12.1	The DEI aims to create a changing programme of displays which promote and explain the significance of the building and collection to members and the general public.	
12.2	Portable displays are offered to other organisations in the wider community such as public buildings and educational establishments.	
12.3	The DEI's website supports access to the library catalogue and lists activities and events. Digitised versions of unique books, transcripts of our lectures and displays are also available.	
12.4	The DEI is active on social media which extends the Institution's reach into the wider world.	
12.5	We aim to bridge the digital divide and support people of all ages who will use our digital resources in addition to encouraging people of all ages to use our primary sources.	
13	Consultation and monitoring:	
13.1	The Devon & Exeter Institution's commitment to public education is specifically promoted, monitored, evaluated and supported by the Library, Research and Publication Committee and Project and Programme Committee, as set out in their Terms of Reference.	
14	Reviewing the policy.	
14.1	We will review the Education policy annually, or when major changes take place at the DEI.	