

# Poppleton Explore Gateway Library Pen Portrait

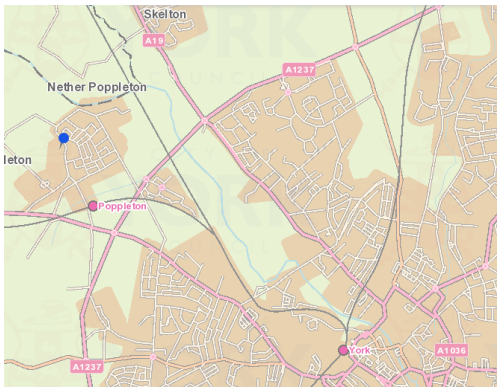
## The Building

Poppleton Library was built in 1960, and there have been no significant structural changes since. The land and building is owned by CYC. A 2013 condition survey found that building maintenance costs over 20 years would be £126,025.

There are a couple of parking spaces, and regular buses stop nearby. The library has level access, but no accessible toilet. The library is open for 21.5 hours per week, which is average for a community library, but this does not include any evening opening. The Library is adjacent to a school, and is slightly removed from the centre of the village.



## Community Assets



Poppleton Explore Gateway library uses the main body of the library for running groups and events, and these can take place outside of opening hours if necessary. The library helps to combat social isolation through a varied programme of activities including a regular reading group. Regular children's activities such as the summer reading challenge contribute towards children's literacy, and there are computer workshops for beginners addressing adult digital literacy too, alongside free PCs and Wi-Fi.

Poppleton Library has strong community cohesion through its volunteering programme, with over 20 volunteering hours per week. A newly established Friends Group is also thriving.

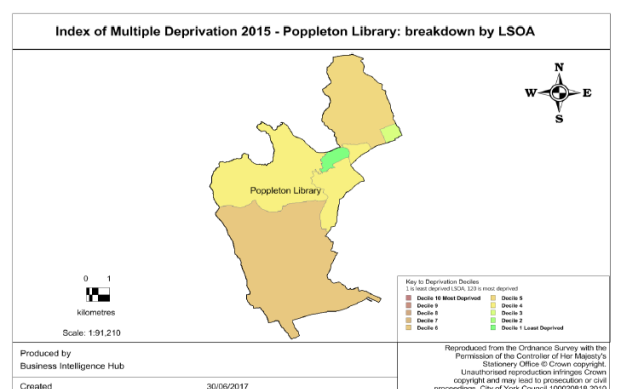
The library has strong links with the Parish Council and with local schools. Partners offer activities from the building such as an NHS drop-in. Local community groups use the library for displays and residents can come to the library to take part in consultations or to view the local plan, promoting active citizenship.

Also in the area, very close to Poppleton Library, is The Poppleton Centre which is a charity managed by Poppleton Community Trust. It has a cafe, and is the meeting place for many groups, with a particular emphasis on sport but also covering local history, scrabble, and art appreciation. The churches, Poppleton Methodist and St Everilda, host some groups and events. All together the events on offer in Poppleton tend to be aimed at a general audience, rather than addressing specific needs such as job seeking, debt advice or public health.

## Population profile

Poppleton Library falls within Rural West York Ward, but most library usage comes from within Poppleton itself. Poppleton is the most affluent part of the ward according to the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015, so whilst ward statistics indicate that measures such as qualifications are only fairly average for York, and child poverty is worse than average, it would probably be a misperception to think that this applied to the residents of Poppleton itself, since Poppleton is within the least deprived 10% of English Super Output Areas.

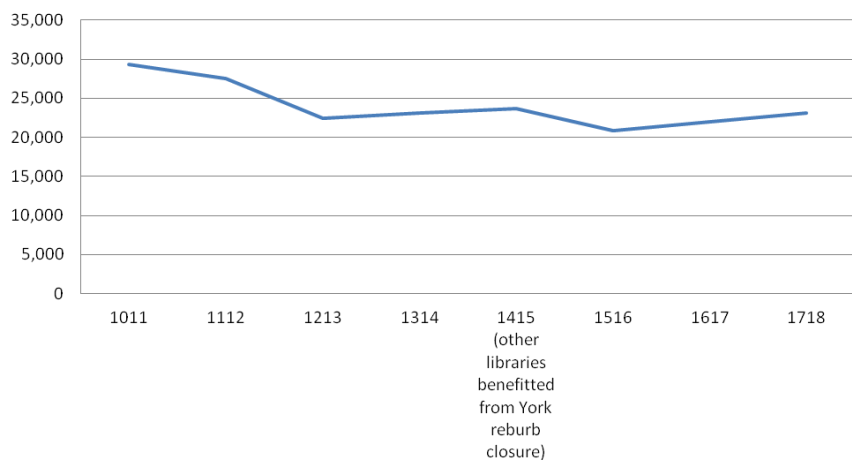
The population of Poppleton is not particularly diverse, with 93% residents identifying as 'White British' in the 2011 census. The age profile is older than across York as a whole, with fewer 20 – 39 year olds and more people aged 45+.



Community cohesion appears to be good, with 84% feeling that they “belong to their local area” and 94% being satisfied with “their local area as a place to live” in a CYC residents’ survey.

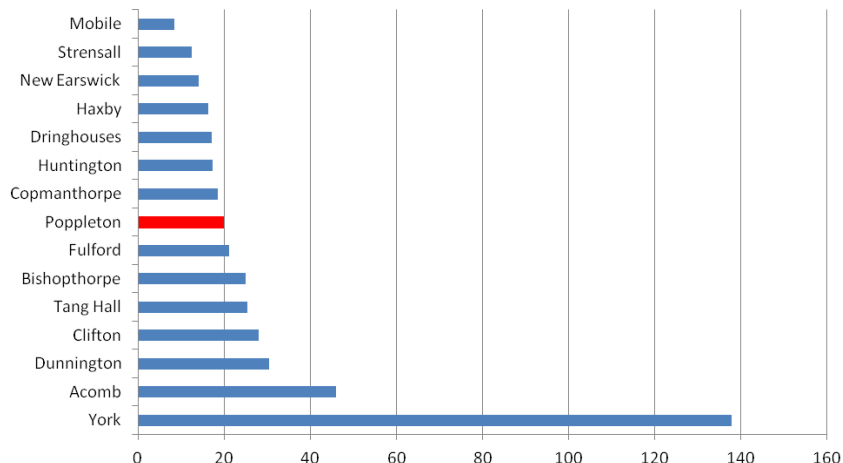
## Current Usage

### Physical Visits to Poppleton Library over time



Visits including Reading Cafes		1718
1	York	426440
2	Acomb	109785
3	Rowntree Park	93253
4	Tang Hall	55352
5	Homestead Park	42693
6	Clifton	40212
7	Bishopthorpe	28397
8	Huntington	25734
9	Haxby	25337
10	Fulford	25322
11	New Earswick	24544
12	Copmanthorpe	23164
13	Poppleton	23137
14	Dringhouses	22924
15	Dunnington	20404
16	Mobile	14091
17	Strensall	13129
18	Sycamore House	255

### Library visits per opening hour during half terms



(Used half term figures to exclude anomalies caused by classroom use of libraries at New Earswick and Fulford)

Of all the libraries, Poppleton and York Explore are the ones whose user base is least skewed towards women (54% of users, 51% of residents). However, it does have the same tendency towards retired users as we see at other libraries, with 57% of the adult users being retired and only 19% of the local population.