

Haxby Explore Gateway Library Pen

Portrait

Haxby Library is currently operating from a vehicle stopping in four locations across Haxby and Wigginton:

- Ethel Ward Playing Fields
- Haxby Memorial Hall
- Wigginton Recreation Hall
- Oaken Grove Community Centre



This is an interim measure following the evacuation of the former building in July 2016. Most library activities can be offered from the vehicle, but for computer access and digital engagement customers are referred to New Earswick Library which has increased opening hours as a result. There are plans to move the library into an extended Haxby Memorial Hall. There is no definite timescale for this.

The Vehicle

The vehicle dates from 2010. Some cosmetic improvements were made by Explore when the vehicle was purchased in early 2017. There have been some teething problems with the power supply, but otherwise the vehicle is in good shape.

The vehicle has some accessible features including a lift. It is open 29 hours per week, which includes a Saturday but no evenings. The locations of the four stops are fairly well spread across Haxby and Wigginton, and tend to be near shops and community centres.

Community Assets

In spite of the limitations of being on a vehicle, Haxby Library is able to offer a range of community engagement activities addressing social isolation including storytimes, chatterbooks and a jigsaw club as they have access to rooms in the halls they park next to. A Code Club is planned to start soon along with a Boccia taster session aimed at gauging interest in a regular activity. Regular children's activities such as the summer reading challenge and nursery visits contribute towards children's literacy.

Haxby Library has had a fairly successful volunteering programme in the past, although this has naturally declined due to there being less scope on the vehicle. Still, there are around 8 volunteering hours per week, which is giving people work experience and strengthening community resilience. The library has a new Friends group and good links with the parish council and with local schools and is looking to strengthen these again now that the mobile service is established.

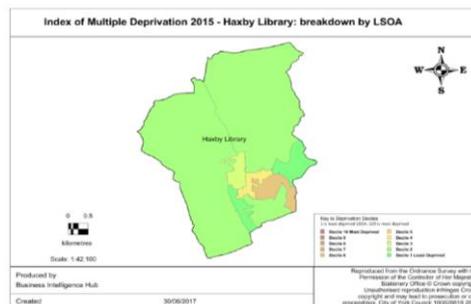
There is a small room at the back of the vehicle from which partners such as the police and the NHS are able to offer drop-ins. There is a small amount of display space which local community groups use to advertise their activities, and residents can come on board to take part in consultations, promoting active citizenship: HealthWatch are planning a regular consultation session.

There are several other venues in Haxby offering community outreach activities, primarily the ones outside which the library vehicle stops. Oaken Grove, run by a trust, has a particularly rich offer including not just social and sporting activities but also computer tuition, WEA classes, citizens advice and a pop-up cafe for the elderly. Haxby Memorial Hall and Wigginton Recreation Hall, both run by trusts, and Wigginton Old School, run by Wigginton Parish Council, between them offer myriad events including weight watchers, U3A & WEA courses, square dancing and more. Ethel Ward Playing Fields, administered by Haxby Town Council, is home to a range of sports clubs. Additionally the churches in the area, Haxby & Wigginton Methodist, St Nicholas, St Mary's, and St Margaret Clitherow, offer a host of activities too.

Population profile

Haxby and Wigginton Ward is a relatively affluent ward, scoring lowly on the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015. This affluence is reflected in a range of measures including child poverty rates, anti-social behaviour, and premature mortality all of which are better in Haxby & Wigginton than in York as a whole. That said, Haxby does

have some significant needs around loneliness. The Age UK risk of loneliness heat map, which looks at a combination of factors including age, marital status and health, identifies a particularly high risk of loneliness in people aged 65+ in Haxby.

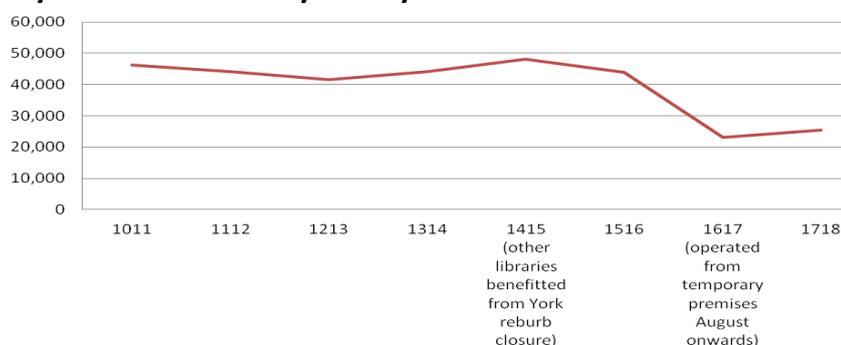


The population of Haxby & Wigginton is not particularly ethnically diverse, with 96.5% of residents identifying as 'White British' in the last census. The age profile is older than York as a whole, without the high number of 15 to 24 year olds you see in areas closer to the universities, and a large amount of people in their 60s. With 16% of people being in their 60s, this library catchment area, along with those at Copmanthorpe and Bishopthorpe are likely to be areas which strongly feel the impact of an aging population over the next 20 years.

Community cohesion appears to be good, with only 82% feeling that they “belong to their local area” and 100% being satisfied with “their local area as a place to live” in a CYC residents’ survey.

Current Usage

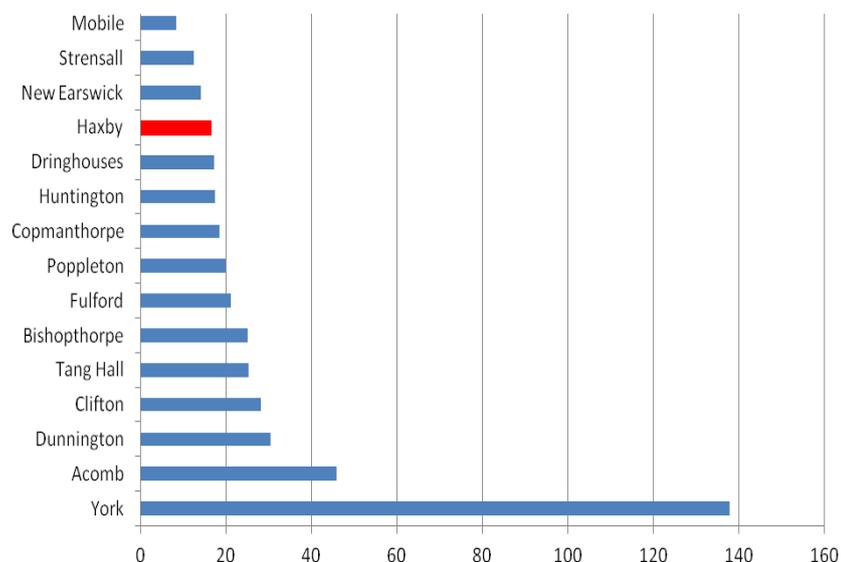
Physical Visits to Haxby Library over time



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)

Haxby Library was not included in the October 2016 user survey which informs Explore’s user profiles. However, a small sample of library database logs indicates that the user profile of Haxby Library departs from the population profile most significantly in terms of having more women (67% of users, 53% of population), and more people aged 60+ (50% of users, 36% of population). However, both of these trends are fairly common in libraries.