

WE  
ARE  
LIBRARY  
PEOPLE®

"I have always imagi



PLYMOUTH  
CENTRAL LIBRARY

CASE STUDY

thedesignconcept

BCI

Eurobib  
direct



*Interior design by Iain Hislop  
from our design office in Glasgow.*

“A really exciting, vibrant  
new library”

### **Plymouth Central Library, UK**

After an intense tender process the design concept overcame tough competition to win the bid to re-design and fit-out Plymouth Library. Plymouth City Council relocated the library to the heart of the city, a decision that was paramount in the design idea for the space. The new library would be surrounded by high street retailers and the design concept were thrilled to have the opportunity to create a vibrant, lively ground floor with eye-catching features and a commercial feel.

Visitors enter via the Armada Way entrance and are encouraged to follow the flow of Cocoon furniture to reach the stunning children's area and be welcomed by an amazing statement tree in the centre, a feature that stimulated the entire design of the library space. Brightly coloured furniture, wall graphics and Warhol inspired lighthouse acrylic end panels bring the library to life.

In a complete contrast to the ground floor, there is a noticeable change in pace on the first floor. The lighthouse theme is continued to signify the iconic reference to the city, however the colours change to suit the more subdued, study friendly environment.



*Bespoke acrylic leaves are used on the tree to add even more colour to the children's space, and the vibrant lighthouse acrylic end panels add a splash of colour throughout the ground floor space. Made to order desks are also fitted around the pillars of the library and provide a spacious PC bank for users.*



*These images show the wall graphics that are added throughout the library . Again, vibrant colours are used on the ground floor and complete the look of the space.*



Cocoon furniture, as seen in the right hand image, is used to add more seating and display options for the library and it's visitors. Images to the left show the first floor of the library and the change in design to create a more subdued atmosphere for study and quiet reading time.



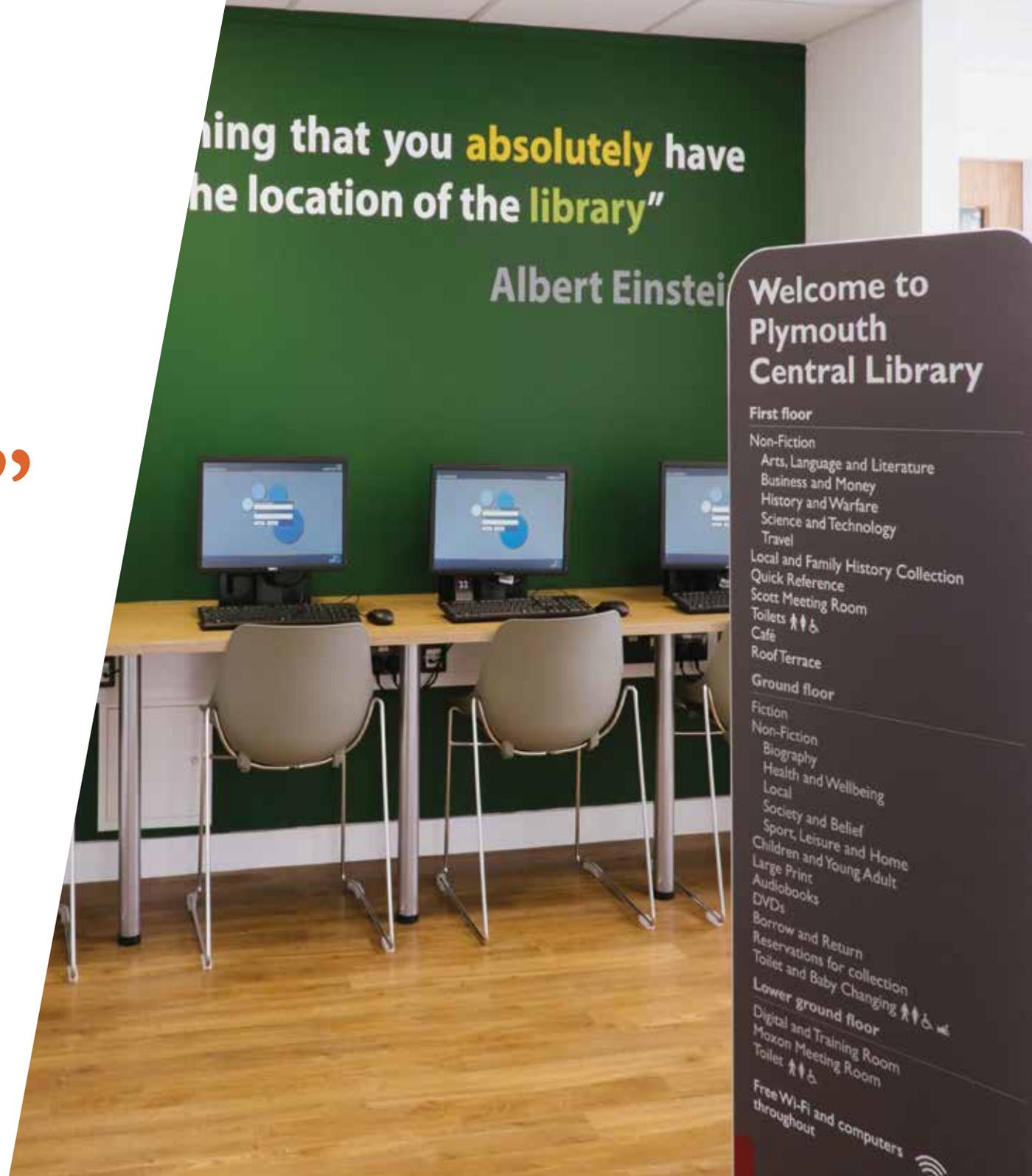
Main image: Warhol inspired lighthouse acrylic end panels create a visual impact. The colours change from the ground floor to enhance the subdued feel of the 1st floor while highlighting an iconic image, significant to the city of Plymouth. Top Right: Carefully selected quotes are added to the walls via a bespoke graphics package and bring life to the library. Bottom Right: Bespoke desking complements the feel of the library and provides visitors with a bank of PC's, ready for use.

“Everyone who visits is impressed by the welcoming feel, the co-ordination of colour and the uniquely Plymouth feel to the fit out”

#### Don't take our word for it ...

*"We selected Thedesignconcept to help us to deliver the New Plymouth Central Library because of the sheer enthusiasm and commitment to libraries they demonstrated in their bid and interview and their creativity and vision towards interpreting our brief that creates a real sense of place within the heart of the City Centre. In the first few weeks borrowing and membership is up dramatically and is realising our vision of creating a new City Centre destination at the new Central Library. Everyone who visits is impressed by the welcoming feel, the co-ordination of colour and the uniquely Plymouth feel to the fit out. Every aspect to the commission was well managed from finalising the design to completing the installation. The installation was even achieved two days ahead of Programme."*

Chris Coldwell, Senior Project Manager  
Portfolio Transformation, Plymouth City Council



ing that you **absolutely** have  
the location of the **library**"

Albert Einstei

## Welcome to Plymouth Central Library

### First floor

- Non-Fiction
  - Arts, Language and Literature
  - Business and Money
  - History and Warfare
  - Science and Technology
  - Travel
- Local and Family History Collection
- Quick Reference
- Scott Meeting Room
- Toilets ♿♿♿
- Café
- Roof Terrace

### Ground floor

- Fiction
  - Non-Fiction
    - Biography
    - Health and Wellbeing
    - Local
    - Society and Belief
    - Sport, Leisure and Home
  - Children and Young Adult
  - Large Print
  - Audiobooks
  - DVDs
  - Borrow and Return
  - Reservations for collection
  - Toilet and Baby Changing ♿♿♿

### Lower ground floor

- Digital and Training Room
- Moxon Meeting Room
- Toilet ♿♿♿

Free Wi-Fi and computers  
throughout

## Recent Projects

- Barrhead Public Library
- Greenock Central Library
- Greenwich Public Library
- Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School, Hertfordshire
- Haberdashers' Aske's Girls' School, Hertfordshire
- Johnstone Public Library
- Palmers Green Library
- St Patrick's College, Dublin
- Hurstpierpoint College Library
- Billingham Central Library
- Shirley Library, West Midlands
- Stirling Central Library
- Bridgeton Olympia Library, Glasgow
- Kirkcaldy Library, Fife
- Bracknell Central Library, Bracknell Forest
- Ballyfermot Library, Dublin

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“ Innovation is what characterizes how we work with library design. Your project may be big or small, but our aspirations always remain the same ”

