



Accessing & Searching the British Education Index (BREI)

Faculty of Education
Library & Information Service

Introduction

The British Education Index is a national database providing information on research, policy and practice in education and training in the UK. It indexes over 300 education and training journals, mostly published in the UK and allows you to search for specific journal articles by subject and keyword.

The database is available both on and off-campus.

If you are unable to find what you are looking for or need help searching the database, please ask a member of Library Staff for help.

1. Accessing the British Education Index

Off-Campus:

Step 1: From the Faculty Library CamTools site or from your Library Course CamTools site select [Databases](#)

Faculty of Education Library

Library Home

- MEd Herts
- Secondary PGCE
- Primary PGCE
- Reading Lists
- Wiki [admin]
- Site Info [admin]
- Resources [admin]
- Manage Students [admin]
- Site Stats [admin]
- Site Members[admin]
- Home

Options

[Library Information For Secondary Pages](#) > [Library Information For Med Herts 2009-11](#) > [Faculty Of Education Library Home](#)

Welcome to the Faculty of Education Library!

Click on a course title on the left menu for information & resources specific to your studies. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need any help in locating material, either in the Library or electronically.

Opening hours

Contact details

Renew your books

- [Catalogue](#)
- [ebooks](#)
- [Journals](#)
- [Databases](#)

Select **Databases**

Step 2: Select [British Education Index](#) from the list and follow the links through to the database

Databases

Bibliographic databases enable you to search for the latest information in journal articles, reports and conference papers on a specific subject. A full list of all education resources that the University has subscribed to can be found at eresources@cambridge

Below is a list of the most useful databases covering education (you will need your Raven username and password to access these resources off-campus):

Database	Information	Guides
Scopus	Scopus is international coverage and indexes 16,500 peer-reviewed journals plus book series and conference papers in the fields of Scientific, Technical, Medical and Social Sci	Scopus search guide
British Education Index	The British field of education journals in the	BREI search guide
ERIC	Education Resources Information Center (ERIC) is an American English language database relating to education. ERIC indexes over 650 journals, plus books,	

Select **British Education Index**

Step 3: Click on the database title and you will be prompted for your Raven username & password

The screenshot shows the Cambridge University Library website. The search results are for 'Resources with titles containing 'british education index''. A callout box with an arrow points to the 'British Education Index' title, with the text 'Click on the database title'.

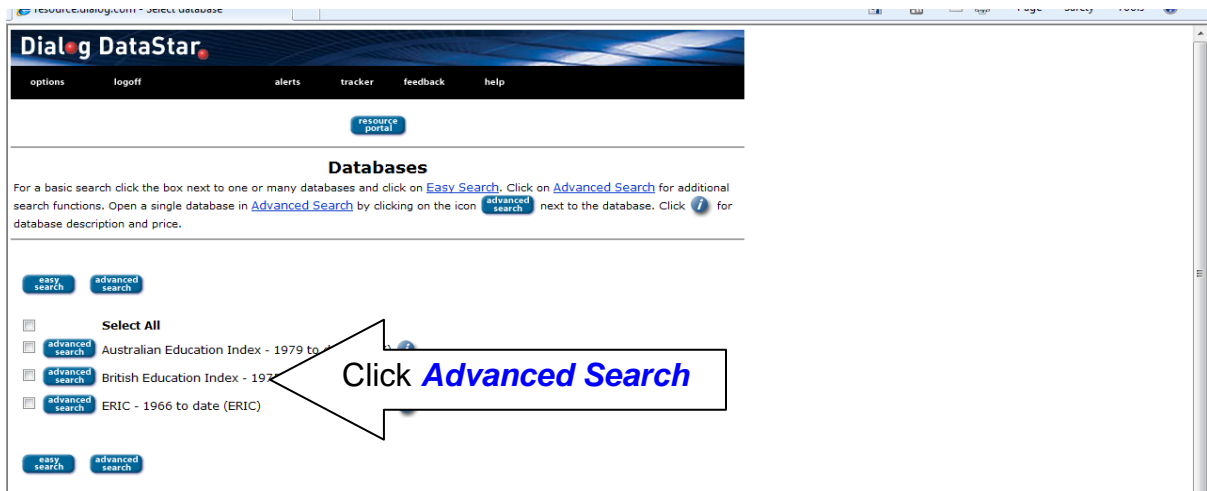
Step 4: Enter your Raven username & password

The screenshot shows the Raven Authentication Service page. The login form has fields for 'User-id' and 'Password', and a 'Submit' button. A callout box with an arrow points to the 'Submit' button, with the text 'Click on the Submit button'.

Step 5: Click on *On-Campus Logon* and you will be redirected to the database

The screenshot shows the resource.dialog.com website. The page features a grid of buttons for 'Athens Logon', 'On-Campus Logon', 'Online Help', 'Administrator', and 'Dialog.com'. A callout box with an arrow points to the 'On-Campus Logon' button, with the text 'Click on the On-Campus Logon button'.

Step 6: Click on [Advanced Search](#) next to the British Education Index



On-Campus

For on-campus access, follow the steps above but you will not need to enter your Raven Username & Password.

2. Searching the Database

The Advanced Search allows you to combine search terms, to search the thesaurus, or to bring results from different searches together.

The database defaults to searching a whole document, but you can also search by Title, Author(s) or Source (e.g. journal title).

Step 1: Type the word or phrase in the box provided & click on Search

Advanced Search:
British Education Index - 1975 to date (BREI)

Search history:

No.	Database	Search term	Info added since	Results
CP		[Clipboard]		0

Enter your search term(s): [Search tips](#) Thesaurus mapping
[input field] whole document

Information added since: [input field] or: none

Published since January 2007 Published since January 2005 Published since January 2003 Abstracts
 English

Click [?](#) to select terms from the following list(s):

- [Publication year](#)
- [BREI thesaurus - enter a known thesaurus term](#)
- [Age and educational-level groupings](#)
- [Language of publication](#)
- [Publication types](#)

Top - News & FAQs - Dialog

You can also type in a word or phrase, tick the Thesaurus mapping box & click on search to bring up a list of descriptors used by the database. Once you have selected your terms from the list, click on Search.

3. Combining Searches

Use the set numbers (displayed on the left in your search history) to develop & refine your search by combining terms. Ensure that the Thesaurus mapping box is not ticked and then type the set numbers in the search box on the same page, e.g.: '1 and 2' specifies that documents retrieved must satisfy the criteria of set 1 and set 2:

The screenshot shows the 'Advanced Search' interface for the 'British Education Index - 1975 to date (BREI)'. At the top, there are navigation buttons for 'databases', 'easy search', and 'resource portal'. Below this, the search history is displayed in a table:

No.	Database	Search term	Info added since	Results		
CP		[Clipboard]		0	-	
1	BREI	assessment	unrestricted	8171	show titles	rank
2	BREI	primary ADJ education	unrestricted	11875	show titles	rank

Below the table, there are links for 'hide', 'delete all search steps...', and 'delete individual search steps...'. At the bottom, there is a search input field with the text '1 and 2' and a 'Thesaurus mapping' checkbox.

4. Your results

- Click [Show Titles](#) beside the set of results you want to view
- From the list of titles, click on [Link to abstract/database record](#) to display more details – any abstracts & full text online availability will be shown here
- To go back to your list of titles click on the blue [Titles](#) tab at the top of the page
- To select particular items from the list of titles to email, print or save, tick the boxes next to the records & use the options at the bottom of the screen

E-mailing your search results

Once you have selected your references from the list, tick the relevant boxes at the bottom of the page and click on E-mail. Follow the instructions on screen and the requested results will be sent to you.

5. Locating the journal articles

When you have searched the British Education Index and have a list of references, you will need to check the journal availability in Cambridge. To do this, follow our 2-step guide below:

Step 1: Check if a journal title is available electronically:

- Search the University Library's index ejournals@cambridge

If you cannot find the journal title on this list then either the University does not have a subscription to the electronic version or the journal is not available in electronic format. If this is the case, follow step 2.

Step 2: Check if a journal is available in printed format:

- From the [Newton Library catalogue](#), click on Universal Catalogue at the bottom of the list. Enter the name of the journal in the search box. Make sure you have selected **Journal Title** on the right hand side and click on **Search**.

If you cannot trace the journal anywhere in Cambridge and the article is more than 10 pages long, please contact the Library as we may be able to request the article through the Inter-Library Loan service.

Don't forget, if you need any help with accessing or searching the databases, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

E-mail: library@educ.cam.ac.uk

Tel: 01223 767700