

### Quick guide 9

Athens is a security system which controls access to most of the Library's electronic resources, such as databases and electronic journals. All Athens resources can be used on and off campus.

The Library uses a system called **Athens Devolved Authentication (AthensDA)**.

**AthensDA** works in **two** different ways:

#### 1. Log in from the Library web site

Here you can login to Athens before accessing any of our electronic resources.

1. Go to the Library homepage at [www.brookes.ac.uk/library](http://www.brookes.ac.uk/library) and click on the 'Athens login' button towards the foot of the page.

2. You will be taken to a Brookes Athens login page where you can enter your Brookes ID (staff/student number) and portal password.

3. When you have logged in to Athens, you will have the option of going to Subject help or to the Electronic library for links to resources.

4. When you want to enter an Athens resource you do not need to log in again (some resources may require you to select a Login button or an Athens link but you will not need to enter a username and password again).

5. Your Athens session will remain open for up to 8 hours and you can move between different Athens resources (as long as you do not logout of Athens or close your web browser).

If you need to open a new browser window, you should use File, New, Window (or Ctrl+N) in an existing browser window. If you launch a completely new browser, you will not be logged in to Athens in that browser window.

#### 2. Going directly to an Athens authenticated resource

To log in directly at an Athens resource, you first need to pick up your institutional cookie. You can do this easily by following the brief instructions at [www.brookes.ac.uk library/athens.html#cookie](http://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/athens.html#cookie)

Alternatively, follow the instructions below:

1. At the Athens login page for the resource, ignore the Athens login username and password boxes.

2. Click on the link underneath which says 'Alternative login'

3. Type 'brookes' in the Search box and click 'Go'.

4. The next page offers 2 Oxford Brookes University options. Click the second one, labelled 'Oxford Brookes University (DA)' .

5. At the next screen which says 'Go to the Oxford Brookes University (DA) login page', click 'Go'. You have now picked up the institutional cookie which will be stored on your browser settings on that computer for the next 5 years.

*NB in pooled computer rooms you need set the cookie only once and it will stay on your personal settings whatever PC you use to log onto the network.*

6. After you have clicked 'Go' you will be taken to the Brookes Athens login page where you can enter your Brookes ID (staff/student number) and portal password. You will then be taken directly to the Athens resource you were originally trying to access.

7. Your Athens session will remain open for up to 8 hours and you can move between different Athens resources (as long as you do not logout of Athens or close your web browser).

If you need to open a new browser window, you should use File, New, Window (or Ctrl+N) in an existing browser window. If you launch a completely new browser, you will not be logged in to Athens in that browser window.

### **Logging in via UK Federation**

Some resources have now replaced the "Athens" login option with a "UK federation" log-in or similar. If you log in via this route you will be prompted to select Oxford Brookes from the drop down menu. You will then be taken to the 'Go to the Oxford Brookes University (DA) login page'. Click Go and you will be taken to the Brookes Athens login page where you can enter your Brookes ID (staff/student number) and portal password in the usual way.

### **Logging in with an Athens account from another institution (eg NHS or another university)**

If you want to use a non-Brookes Athens account, do not log in from the Brookes Library home page as this sets you up to access only Oxford Brookes University Library resources. Go directly to the resource you wish to use and login with your non-Brookes Athens account.

If you have set the Oxford Brookes University cookie, you will be recognised as a Brookes user. However, you will be given the option to log in with an alternative account without removing the cookie.

### **Problems logging in?**

Read our tips at [www.brookes.ac.uk/library/athens/loginproblems.html](http://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/athens/loginproblems.html)

### **Help with using Athens resources**

If you have difficulty using any of the Athens resources, please contact us giving your name, student/staff number, the name of the resource and a description of the problems you are having:

- For subject specialist help: contact your Subject Librarian : see [www.brookes.ac.uk/library/substaff.html](http://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/substaff.html) for contact details.
- For general help: email [libraryenquiries@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:libraryenquiries@brookes.ac.uk) or ask at Library Enquiry Desks.