

## **PARK SCHOOL AND NURSERY - LIBRARY POLICY**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

*'What we learn from good books and other resources becomes part of us.'*

Library Association.

- 1.1 The school curriculum develops enjoyment of, and commitment to, learning as a means of encouraging and stimulating the best possible progress and the highest possible attainment by all pupils. The role of our school library and book zones are central to supporting our children's learning. They play a key role in helping our children to develop their communication and information-handling skills. They also offer them a view of the world that is free from stereotypes and promotes equality of opportunity for all.
- 1.2 Our library and book zones help our children become independent and lifelong learners through offering the opportunity for the children to take responsibility for their own learning. The resources in our library and book zones support the aims and objectives of the National Curriculum by promoting the ability in children to read fluently a range of literary and non-fiction texts, and to reflect critically on what they read.

### **2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

- 2.1 The aims of our libraries are:
  - to extend children's learning experiences;
  - to develop children's skills as independent learners;
  - to support teaching and learning in our school, and to enrich the curriculum;
  - to provide opportunities for children to access resources for themselves;
  - to provide an environment where a lifelong enjoyment of books can be fostered.

### **3. ORGANISATION**

- 3.1 Our school library and book zones are centres of learning that we make accessible to all the children and staff at our school. These areas contain fiction books that are banded according to level and non-fiction books are grouped according to topic.
- 3.2 The physical environment of the library is designed to stimulate our children. This motivates them to explore resources for their work in school and for personal study.
- 3.3 The library and book zones have collections of fiction and resources. Classrooms also have collections of fiction and non-fiction books. Fiction books in the library are colour-coded according to their reading levels. They are also given a letter on the spine and grouped according to their level, in alphabetical order of author. Non-fiction and reference books are available in classrooms and are also grouped by topic, in order to support and compliment the learning themes across the school. Children are encouraged to regularly borrow a variety of books. Where possible, the child should write the book title and author in their Reading Record. Junior School pupils are encouraged to record how much they enjoyed the book and all pupils are encouraged to answer a few oral questions posed by the teacher/TA. Parents are asked to sign their children's Reading Records on a regular basis. Children are encouraged to make regular comments.
- 3.4 Our library and book zones are open during normal school hours.
- 3.5 The children are encouraged to develop their library skills through the use of local public libraries and via visiting librarians. We hold regular book fairs and World Book Day celebrations.
- 3.6 Class reader sets of books can be found in Year group learning areas and are shared between classes.

3.7 Books which explore themes of diversity and diversion are marked with a coloured smiley face sticker on the spine or on the top left hand corner of the cover.

3.8 There are books designed to support children with dyslexia which are marked with a yellow star.

#### **4. RESOURCES**

- 4.1 The English Subject Leader and nominated Teaching Assistants manage the school library, book zones and resources across the school. The subject leader has non-contact time for managing this resource. Teaching Assistants may be available to create and put up displays.
- 4.2 All teachers and pupils are invited to become involved in the purchasing of library resources. We use our library resources to positively promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our children and to reflect the needs of all our pupils. Pupils are encouraged to maintain all aspects of our libraries.
- 4.3 The annual budget for the library is variable, according to current needs.
- 4.4 We check and replace stock on a regular basis. This ensures that our resources are in good condition, up to date and relevant to our children's needs.
- 4.5 An Action Plan sets out future development.
- 4.6 Some Year 6 pupils are selected to act as library prefects helping to promote and maintain our libraries.
- 4.7 Bi-annually, we hold a Book Fair to aid us with restocking the library, and to encourage reading across the School.