

Pilgrims School

Library Policy

June 2022

Next review date: June 2023



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Please note: 'School' refers to Early Years Foundation Stage (Little Pilgrims and Pre School) and Pilgrims Main School.

Value and Aims

The school places great emphasis on the library and aims to make it an inviting and stimulating environment with a quiet, purposeful atmosphere. We aim to instil in the children a love of books and learning, whilst teaching them to be responsible for the resources available to them. The library is accessible to all children throughout the school.

Objectives

1. Learning

Our objectives are to have all children in the school borrowing books on a regular basis. As they become older we encourage them to use the library for research as well. We focus on particular authors or subjects at various times to widen their appreciation of the choice available, and to help them become familiar with the different genres stocked.

2. Teaching

We expect that all children will be taught how to locate books they would like to explore, how to remove them from the shelves for browsing, and then return them to the appropriate place using the marker cards provided.

Staff demonstrate the appropriate way to handle, choose and borrow books. The children visit the library regularly which ensures practice in the above. They learn to help each other as well as to ask staff for help where appropriate. They are praised for replacing books correctly, choosing carefully and behaving in an appropriate manner in the library.

3. Assessment, Recording and Reporting

All books stocked in the library are entered on to the computer using the Librasoft Librarian software. They are able to be accessed by number, title, author and subject. All books are signed in and out of the library using this system.

Assessment of the usage of the library is visual: number of classes visiting the library, range of books being borrowed, books replaced correctly on the shelves.

Staff are encouraged to let the library co-ordinator know of gaps in the library or particular books that it would be desirable to have in our collection. These are then purchased according to budget availability.

4. Planning

Library action plan for year see Co-ordinator or SIP plan.

5. Organisation

The books stocked cover a wide range of subjects, and pay particular attention to National Curriculum topics. In many areas a subject is covered at several different ability levels, going from picture books through to detailed non-fiction books for older or more able children. A range of dual language books are stocked to make differentiated provision for children whose first language is not English.

6. Management and Co-Ordination

The library co-ordinator is available to all staff for support using the lending system as well as for locating particular books. She has responsibility for maintaining the library, and for developing it, through discussion with other staff and volunteers.

Usage of library is monitored through observation.

Staff meetings are held periodically for training purposes and discussion in ways to develop the library.

7. Resources

Resources available include:

Books in the following subject categories:

Art, Artists and Art techniques Technology Dictionaries and dual language Poetry, rhymes and plays Folklore Maths Music Sports, leisure toys and hobbies Reliaions, celebrations and festivals General science Science-Ecology Science-materials and their properties Science-Forces and motions Science-Engineering Science-Gas and Electric Science-The universe, planets, light and dark Science-Seasons Science-Weather Science-Earth Science-Water Science-Nature Science-Animals Science-Birds Science-Seeds, trees, plants and flowers Science-Farming and food Pets Our body **PSCHEE** Charities Our World and where we live Famous People Geography-Countries Geography-Maps and travel

History-British History History-Ancient History History-Buildings and Homes

These subjects are labelled in child-friendly ways. For example, science is broken down in to 16 sections

Laptop with appropriate library software installed.

Staff give their time to tidy and maintain library.

Presentation

The library has recently undergone a stock check (Feb 2021) so we have an updated list of all the books available.

Non – fiction books are displayed in the blue carpet area in the white storage areas. A selection from each topic is on display and the remaining books are in storage. These will be changed over on a regular basis. Staff and children can still request a book which is in storage.

Fiction books are displayed on the new pods in alphabetical order of the author. Each section of the alphabet is divided by a wooden cube with the appropriate capital letter and lowercase letter on to help children to return the books in the correct place. Group reader books are stored in alphabetical order in the drawers below.

The library has a wide range of books in very good condition. This core stock is extended on an annual basis, and tatty books are replaced.

Signs aim to encourage the children to look for particular types of books.

The children who may have been working in the library are encouraged to tidy up resources before returning to their classrooms.

Cross Curricular Issues

In addition to covering subjects for the national curriculum the library aims to provide opportunities to value and celebrate multicultural differences. A wide range of fiction and non-fiction takes account of gender differences.

Topic Boxes

Staff can request 'Topic' boxes which the Librarian will put together. Please give a minimum of 2 weeks' notice.