

CLASSROOM LIBRARIES

POLICY

Rationale:

- Students learn to read best when they work within a literacy rich classroom environment. Classroom libraries will be a key feature in providing such an environment.

Aims:

- To provide all students with rich, exciting, appropriate and accessible reading materials within their classrooms.

Implementation:

- Classroom libraries will be a feature of every classroom.
- Each classroom library will consist of a minimum of 500 different books and reading materials.
- The school will identify sturdy and attractive commercial bookshelves appropriate for the height of the students for classroom libraries, and every classroom will have the same shelves.
- A variety of storage tubs, display holders and similar resources to organise books within each classroom library will be purchased and made available.
- Libraries will be located in an area of the classroom where students meet to engage in learning and discussions.
- Word walls and similar literacy stimulus resources and materials will be located near each classroom library.
- Bean bags, cushions, mats and/or similar furnishings will complement each classroom library.
- Classroom libraries will contain combinations of 'just right' books as well as a variety of more challenging books covering topics selected by the students.
- All classroom library books will be processed through the school library as normal, and will be bulk borrowed out from the library by classroom teachers.
- Books from the school library will also be used to supplement classroom libraries, with classroom teachers borrowing the books from the library under their names.
- Classroom library books will be well maintained, well looked after, kept in good condition and regularly replenished and turned over.
- A borrowing system will be implemented in each classroom so that students can borrow books to take home and teachers can keep track of the books.
- Students will be able to write brief book reports for each book read, providing other students with ideas, feedback and ratings about the books they have read.
- Access to classroom libraries will form part of each student's independent reading time.
- Students will be provided with daily access to classroom libraries.
- Damaged, lost or worn books must be reported to the librarian for appropriate replacement or repair.

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council on....

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