

Information Regarding The Schools Library Service

Financial Position of the Service

The Schools Library Service (SLS) operational costs are covered by the subscriptions paid by the schools, and whilst schools are very welcome to submit any suggestions for how to improve the service which will be considered as part of the evaluation there are no proposals to reduce the service as part of this review.

How Many Schools Subscribe?

There are **65** schools who fully subscribe to into the Southampton SLS service and an additional **7** schools who buy into specific activities and services (2 of these are independent schools).

There are **6** Schools in Southampton who do not use the Southampton School Library Service in any way. Currently the Southampton City Council List of Schools September 2014 indicates that there are a total of **76** in Southampton.

How Many Resources Are Available?

There are over **97,096** items which schools may borrow. In addition to these materials there are **52,196** items on loan to schools both in their school library and /or being used by teachers in the classroom to deliver the curriculum. The Southampton School Library Service also offers a number of online resources to subscribing schools which include e CHALK and the Guardian Online.

How Many Children Benefit from the Service?

Over **23,888** children use school libraries supplied by the School Library Service with a further **2,164** benefiting from services and activities provided by the School Library Service a total of **26,052** (this figure does not include children at special, hospital, pupil referral unit and private schools where NOR figures not readily available)

Additional Benefits of the SLS

There have been approximately **258** visits by school staff to Southampton School Library Service centre to exchange and select materials – on average **150-200** items are exchanged at each visit. In addition to the face to face visits from school staff the service offers advice and support and deals with requests from schools through emails and by telephone.

The Southampton School Library Service Advisors have spent a total of **2,000** hours in schools providing advice and training for staff, helping with stock work, advising on the design and layout of school libraries and supporting and developing Literacy and Library skills in schools.

In addition to the 2 large scale training sessions the Southampton School Library Service Advisors ran for schools last year approximately 25 tailored training sessions were held with staff in schools to address individual training needs.

In partnership with SLS colleagues in Hampshire and Portsmouth the Southampton School Library Service offers annual Primary and Secondary Training Conference for schools.

The Southampton School Library Service Mobile has visited 35 schools in the last year, the vehicle only operates 1 day a week. Each school is able to have up to 3 visits per year (approximately once a term and can exchange up to 150 items at each visit)

The Southampton School Library Service organise an annual book award 3,000 children from Southampton Schools participated in the award last year reading and then voting for Southampton's Favourite Book.

The service also organises a programme of author visits to schools throughout the academic year around 1,700 children enjoyed meeting authors last year.