



St Anthony's Catholic Primary School

An Academy within The Catholic Academy Trust in South Hampshire

*'Children in our heart, Christ at the centre'
'We love, we learn and we live'*



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Chair of S&A sub-committee	Anne Taylor
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Library Policy



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The St Anthony's mission statement is 'Children in our heart, Christ at the centre. We love, we learn and we live.' To live out this mission, we are guided and led by our Catholic ethos that places the Catholic Social Teaching principles of Human Dignity and the Common Good at the heart of our school. We recognise that each of us is unique and loved by God and we are called to lead by example, as Christ did, to show respect and love to every person because each of us is made in the image of God.

Rationale

At St. Anthony's, we believe passionately in the importance of reading for children of all ages and the impact which a child's reading ability can have on their life. As well as preparing children to be 'kind leaders of the future', we also want to send each of our pupils to secondary schools, not only as fluent readers with excellent comprehension skills, but also as individuals who have a deep love of reading. To achieve this goal, our school library is an important resource which we want all of our pupils to utilise and enjoy.

Aims

- To provide all pupils with a wide selection of enjoyable, stimulating and challenging texts, both fiction and non-fiction, which they can access frequently.
- To regularly update the stock within the school library, to ensure that the books on offer to children contain both heritage texts, as well as more modern titles, from a diverse range of authors.
- To help foster children's love of reading through regular visits to the library (referred to as 'book club'. These will incorporate pupils being able to change their library books and spend time being read to by their class teacher.
- To regularly audit the stock of the school library and ensure that overdue books are either returned or replaced, so as not to restrict other children from enjoying them.
- To ensure that the library remains a tidy and peaceful environment in which children can develop their love of reading. This will be done with the help of the Year 6 Library Prefects.

Library Stock

The Reading subject leader will be in charge of overseeing the school library stock. They will meet with School Library Service (SLS) representatives each term to discuss the current stock in the school library, which books appear popular and unpopular, and what additions would be good for the next term (both fiction and non-fiction). SLS representatives will be able to advise the Reading subject lead on newer titles and can help ensure that the school stocks a diverse range of authors to offer to pupils. The Reading subject leader will also be in charge of updating the school's Amazon wishlist, enabling parents to contribute to the high-quality catalogue of books that the school offers to pupils.

Use of the library and the school's reading culture

The primary aim of the school library is to help to foster a deep love of reading within all pupils at the school. The library is at the heart of the school's reading culture and we want each pupil to look forward to their library time every week. During each class's weekly visit to the library, (which will be referred to as 'love of reading time' or 'book club'), children will get a chance to listen to their class reader, read to them by their teacher with discussions and questions around the book that they are reading. As well as this, children will be able to speak to their peers about the current book that they are reading, or any other favourite books of theirs that they would recommend to others in their class. Additionally, children will get the chance to change their library books (up to a maximum of two).

Book loans

Each child will have the option to take out two books on loan each week from the school library. Children will be encouraged to take out at least one fiction book (for example one fiction book and one non-fiction book, or two fiction books). Books are able to be loaned for a maximum of two weeks before they must be returned to school. If a pupil requires to loan a book for longer than two weeks (for example a child in KS2 who is reading a longer chapter book), they must return the book to school at the end of their initial two-week loan, so that it can be immediately re-issued to them. If a child doesn't return a book after two weeks, a letter will be sent to parents asking for the book to be returned. If the book is still not returned after a further two weeks, it will be classified as 'lost' and the parents will be charged a £5 fee so that the school can replace it, payable via Scopay.

Library environment

The library environment should further foster a love of reading within our pupils. The library should be kept neat and tidy at all times. The upkeep of the library will predominantly be the responsibility of the Reading subject lead (with the help of the rest of the SLT) and they will be supported by the Y6 Library Prefects. At the start of each academic year, the new Y6 Library Prefects will receive training on how to maintain the school library and will be expected to spend an hour in each week (more at busier times) to help maintain the library. Each class, at the start of each academic year, should be instructed by their class teacher on how to efficiently browse, take out and return books. Each class have been issued with a class set of laminated 'helping hands': these allow pupils to take a book from a shelf and place the hand on the shelf to save where the book has been taken from. Then, if the pupil does not wish to loan the book, they can place it back on the shelf accurately.