

Statement on School Library Resource Centre Funding

Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) and Australian School Library Association (ASLA)

Purpose

To fulfil the school's learning and teaching goals the school library needs to be adequately funded and appropriately resourced.

ALIA objects addressed

- ❖ To promote the free flow of information and ideas in the interest of All Australians and a thriving culture, economy and democracy.
- ❖ To promote and improve the services provided by all kinds of library and information agencies.

ASLA objectives addressed

- ❖ Establish, review and maintain national standards and guidelines for school library resource services.
- ❖ Develop, write and publish materials which will promote the development of school library resource services and teacher librarianship.

Principle

A well resourced school library enhances learning and teaching outcomes. Funding reflects local reality and relates to the school policy for the library. It is an investment that supports the curriculum, the learner and collection needs. Analysis and evaluation of the funding are part of an annual process.

Statement

In consultation with school leaders the teacher librarian produces a budget that delivers high quality resources and services:

- ❖ research indicates that:
 - size and quality of a school library teaching/support staff and its collections are the best school predictors of academic achievement
 - students who score higher on standardised tests tend to come from schools with more school library staff and more access to services and resources such as books, periodicals and online material regardless of other factors such as economic ones
- IFLA school library guidelines, p.24*
- ❖ policy framework is structured to conform with local requirements, is informed by research and provides the basis for the development of programs and services
 - ❖ programs and services are provided by qualified staff in a space that is conducive to learning and teaching and the budget reflects the programs and services offered
 - ❖ collection maintenance and development supports continuous improvement



so the collection comprises high quality and diverse resources both print and digital and is accessible to all learners

- ❖ school budget procedures follow local requirements
- ❖ annual reports analyse how the budget has been used and identifies whether the funds spent on the programs and services has been sufficient to achieve the school policies

Related documents

International Federation of Library Associations, 2015. *IFLA School library guidelines*, 2nd ed, IFLA, The Hague.

Johnson, L., Adams Becker, S., Estrada, V., and Freeman, A. 2015, *NMC Horizon report: 2015 library edition*, The New Media Consortium, Austin, Texas.

Australian Library and Information Association, 2014, *ALIA AITSL Standards for teacher librarian practice*, Australian Library and Information Association, Canberra.

Australian School Library Association, 2014 *Evidence guide for teacher librarians in the highly accomplished career stage*, Australian School Library Association, Canberra, ACT.

Australian School Library Association, 2014, *Evidence guide for teacher librarians in the proficient stage*, Australian School Library Association, Canberra, ACT.

Statement on library and information services in schools

Statement on school library resource centre provision

Statement on teacher librarians in Australia

Adopted: November 1994

Amended: February 2009

Revised: July 2016