ACT Government
Education and Training

Forrest Primary School

Library Policy

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Principal's Name and Signature: Christine Pilgrim

Board Chair's Name and Signature: Sally Troy

To be read with: Curriculum Requirements in ACT Public Schools, Preschool to Year 10. 20019. CRIAPS 200903

RATIONALE

The Forrest Primary School (FPS) Library contributes to the attainment of the school's Mission Statement in many ways. At its core is a focus on promoting lifelong learning and the desire to develop in students a love of literature. FPS maintains a library with the express aims of:

- Enriching and supporting the curriculum
- Providing texts which vary in the level of difficulty and appeal
- Supporting literate development in mother tongue
- Representing a range of views on all issues
- Valuing difference without deficit, including efforts to reduce indigenous disadvantage
- Supporting personal intellectual growth in students
- Promoting understanding of diversity
- Encouraging pursuit of recreational interests
- Fostering a love of reading
- Providing a balance of print and digital texts
- Providing equitable access to internet enabled devices.

The school's collection is managed by a person qualified to be appointed as teacher librarian, according to the Education and Training Directorate. As a member of a school's teaching team, the teacher librarian has a role in the planning, implementation and evaluation of educational policies, curricula, outcomes and programs, with particular reference to the development of students' information literacy.

Responsibility for the Library lies ultimately with the School Principal. Intermediary responsibility for the management of the collection lies with the Teacher-Librarian.

Resources collected by the library are made available to members of the FPS community, including students, staff, parents, carers and extended community. Resources support the curriculum and its delivery. Books, realia and kits which build capacity, develop and inform current educational issues and practices as well as a range of texts appropriate for students, including fiction and information texts are held in the Teachers' Resource Centre.

Avenues for input to **collection development and weeding** are made available to Curriculum Committees, lead teachers and staff. All teachers share the responsibility of informing the Teacher-Librarian of their teaching and learning programs so that the Teacher-Librarian may assist in providing access to appropriate and relevant material which aligns with the Programme of Inquiry.

The library holds a growing collection of **mother tongue resources** as it is acknowledged that additional languages enrich all students' understanding of their own and another language. In further acknowledgement and promotion of mother tongue speaking, during **book week**, students from several different countries read a story to the school during lunchtimes in their mother tongue.

The physical Library space is deliberately designed to be an attractive and a welcoming environment, inviting use by students and teachers for a variety of purposes. Furnishings are strategically chosen due to their mobility and multifunctional aspects.

LEARNING FRAMEWORKS THAT SUPPORT AND GUIDE STUDENT LEARNING

The current Pre-school to Year 6 program is based on three main documents:

- International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (IB PYP)
- Early Years Learning Framework http://education.gov.au/early-years-learning-framework
- *Australian Curriculum* (AC) (2014). While aspects of information and digital literacy are touched on across the curriculum, the AC's General Capabilities of Literacy, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) capability and Critical and Creative Thinking have particular relevance.*http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/GeneralCapabilities/Overview/general-capabilities-in-the-australian-curriculum*

Library lessons promote critical and creative thinking and guide students in developing information and digital literacy. Students are encouraged to engage in the action cycle (choose –act-reflect), supported by developing an understanding of the Inquiry process. All teachers at FPS teach **information and digital literacy** as part of the **International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme** (IB PYP) and **Australian Curriculum** (AC). Planning for student learning is undertaken between the teacher librarian, classroom teacher and the Curriculum Co-Ordinator regularly.

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