




BISHOP CHALLONER CATHOLIC COLLEGE

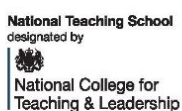
Bishop Challoner Catholic College 	Policy BC_057	Next Review	May 2022
		Review Period	1 Year
		Committee	Premises May 2021
		Website Published	July 2021
		Current Status	Complete
		Staff Owner	C. Fanning
		Government/DfE Requirement	Non-statutory
Bishop Challoner Catholic College Library Policy			

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School mission statement:

'Our Catholic School is a living and caring community of Faith, an extension of the home, and an integral part of the Catholic community.'

IN OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH
IN BISHOP CHALLONER CATHOLIC SCHOOL
WE GIVE GLORY TO GOD BY DEVELOPING OUR FULL POTENTIAL
AND IN OUR SERVICE TO OTHERS
IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON
AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Library statement:

The OLC provides a space and resources that strive to facilitate well-being and happiness: a safe place that gives opportunities and a means for expanding the creative mind: a place that brings the school community together and blends the subjects.

Aim:

- To foster a culture of reading for pleasure and broaden students' interests, with a range of books that reflect their own cultures and enhance their appreciation of the cultures and lives of others.
- To continue to provide and develop a wide selection of books of different genres and difficulty levels, including books specifically for those with special educational needs, so that the library is inclusive to all.
- To provide books that stimulate the creative mind.
- To create an environment for independent and/or directed study.
- To provide resources to assist students with independent and wider reading.
- To provide a space that the students can use for extra- curricular activities such as show casing talents, book fairs and fundraising.
- To provide classroom books for years 7 and 8 to encourage continuation of the regular reading they have at primary school.

Objective: The Objective of the Library is to foster a culture of reading for pleasure within the school, which in turn will give our students all the benefits that reading can bring, to include: wider vocabulary, better understanding of grammar, more accurate and faster reading and comprehension, a sense of mental wellbeing, compassion and understanding of other cultures, better emotional intelligence, and ultimately improved life chances

Staff: Mrs Fanning (3 days)
Mrs Newton (2 days)

Opening hours:

Monday to Thursday 8am - 4.30pm

Friday 8am – 3 pm

Students can use the OLC before school and after school, however the current Covid situation mean there are designated times for certain year bubbles.

Venue: The Open Learning Centre situated at the heart of the school is just off the main entrance on the ground floor and is next to the Head Teacher’s Office.

It is noticeably different from the classrooms being much bigger, with shelving for Non-fiction, Fiction, brochures and magazines and very different furniture and lighting.

It is a pleasant space with coloured lights drawing the eye to the back shelving and creating a pleasant atmosphere.

The main wall incorporates a display board which is used to promote our current theme of the term.

Contents: The OLC is equipped with the following:

Tables and chairs for 48 people that can be reconfigured to suit, but are usually organised in circles of 6 or 8.

There is soft seating for 8 people.

There are 8 desk top computers for schoolwork.

There is a colour printer.

There are plenty of shelves with books, brochures and magazines.

There are a selection of games including scrabble, chess and other educational games that help develop social skills.

The Librarian has a desk, computer, and telephone and cupboard space.

Purpose: To provide a pleasant reading and learning environment that sixth form students can use during free lessons and lower school can use for study and appropriate social

interaction before, after and during break times. We aim to have a relaxed but calm environment enjoyed by everyone.

Various book clubs take place in the OLC, including reading and literacy interventions.

Before Covid restrictions, regular break-time show-casings of student talent from different subject areas or extra-curricular hobbies took place in the OLC, thus widening student's horizons.

There are occasional fund-raising events in the OLC, which support the school charity. Students are encouraged to help organise this and they gain valuable organisational skills and feel part of the school community.

The space is also used for staff meetings and training if required outside school hours.

Behaviour:

Students are introduced to the OLC during year 6 transition days and more formally during the first few weeks in Year 7 when they are given an OLC/Library Induction lesson. Students are given guidance and instruction on how to use the OLC and are encouraged to borrow a book.

The 'Library Etiquette Guide,' is visible to all the students in the OLC and students will generally be expected to be seated at a table space, with no food or drink (except water) permitted.

Politeness, kindness and responsive listening is expected, and any unmanageable behaviour misdemeanours reported to the Head of Year.

Senior staff will often pay a visit to the OLC which also helps keep behaviour in check.

Library staff tend to see the same students and have a good working relationship with them.

Library Monitors:

Year 7 students can apply to be Library Monitors. Basic training is given to the new Library Monitors, and this is followed up with half termly Library Monitor Meetings. This helps some students integrate within their peer group and they get to know a few older students. Students can remain Library monitors until year 9 if they wish. Being a Library Monitor not only teaches the student new skills but fosters friendships and gives a sense of 'belonging'.

Reading Ambassadors:

A few students who regularly support the library and read avidly, have been recognised as 'Reading Ambassadors' and given badges to reward this. Their job is to promote books to their peers.

Borrowing Books:

The library stock is catalogued on a computer system and all students are automatically registered as members of the library when they start school. The books are checked out by the Librarian or Library Monitors. Two books can be borrowed for two weeks at a time. Regular reminders to return books are sent out. Returned books should be put into the returns box to be checked back into the library.

- E Library:** We also have an online library to compliment the library where all students and staff can borrow e books and audio books. There are over 600 books available and 12 new titles are added each month to replace those whose licence has expired. Some students prefer the immediacy of the e-book and or the electronic medium. All students can benefit from listening to an audio book. Interestingly the emotional effects of hearing a human voice can enhance well-being and hearing the intonation can help with comprehension. This is beneficial to all but can also be very helpful for those who find reading difficult or tiring.
- Finance:** The OLC has a modest budget and would benefit from an increase when possible.
The OLC is very much supported by the Head Teacher. Opportunities for outside grants are constantly being investigated.
- Fines:** Fines are not issued. Students are encouraged to borrow the books without fear of being charged. Returns reminders are sent out to the students every half term.
- Development:** Regular half- termly meetings with the Head Teacher are very useful with integrating the work and maximising the OLC /staff capabilities.
- CPD:** Regular contact with the Schools Library Service keeps staff up to date along with articles and documents, reading the quarterly magazine, Librarian blogs, and attending any suitable courses.
- English Link:** There are currently two English teachers liaising between the Library and the English Department, to bridge the gap between departments and keep everyone informed.
- Liaison:** Termly meetings with the Head of English, Head of the SEND department and Library are taking place again to share ideas and maximise and share resources. Parents and students are contacted via Classcharts or directly.
- Parental support:** We encourage and recognise the importance of parental involvement.
- Innovation:** The library team are constantly developing new ways to promote reading and reach the students across the whole school.
- Governors:** The Governors receive a termly report from the OLC team.

Finally:

- There is a great deal of evidence to support the benefits of 'reading for pleasure'.
- Parental encouragement is very important in ensuring time is set aside for reading or listening to a book. This may mean limiting screen time.
- "If you read for 20 minutes a day, you'll encounter an estimated 1,800,000 words over the course of a year whereas reading for only one minute a day will result in only 8,000 words.

David Didau, Nov 2014 <http://www.learningspy.co.uk/literacy/closing-language-gap-building-vocabulary/>

- "research presents overwhelming evidence that literacy has a significant relationship with a person's happiness and success."

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/research-services/research-reports/school-libraries-why-children-and-young-people-use-them-or-not-their-literacy-engagement-and-mental-wellbeing/> Dec 2018

Clark, C., and Rumbold, K. (2006). Reading for Pleasure a research overview. The National Literacy Trust identify several main areas of the benefits to reading for pleasure:

- Reading attainment and writing ability
- Text Comprehension
- Positive reading attitudes
- Greater self-confidence as a reader
- Pleasure in reading later in life.
- General Knowledge
- A better understanding of other cultures
- Community participation
- A greater insight into human nature and decision-making
- "Reading for pleasure is more important for children's educational success than their family's socio-economic status".

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Reading for Change, Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2002

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/284286/reading_for_pleasure.pdf

The benefits of reading for pleasure should not be underestimated. It should be encouraged for all students by staff, parents/ carers.