



# BISHOP CHALLONER CATHOLIC COLLEGE

## Open Learning Centre User Policy

The School Library Association believes that the purpose of a school library is as follows:

*“To provide a wide range of multimedia resources to support teaching and learning throughout the key stages, and foster a reading and information culture that promotes independent motivated readers for life. It will be appropriately staffed and funded and accessible to the whole school community during and outside the school day.”*

Bishop Challoner Open Learning Centre aims to achieve this ideal.

In practice:

### **Providing a wide range of resources**

Resources in the OLC include a wide selection of books, magazines and journals and we encourage the use of online newspaper articles, educational games, podcasts and videos in order to research and learn in the OLC and at home.

### **Supporting teaching and learning throughout the key stages**

Subject leaders are encouraged to utilise the OLC to develop independent learning skills across their subject. The broad aim of independent learning is to create confident, autonomous learners who are able to apply various skills to problem solving and decision making. Independent learners at Bishop Challoner are encouraged to develop the following skills: resourcefulness, resilience, reflection, reasoning and responsibility.

Fostering a reading and information culture that promotes independent motivated readers for life

The OLC aims to build excitement and celebrate reading in order to develop literacy skills, vocabulary, knowledge and imagination.

**Reading for pleasure is given high importance, as this is known to have a major impact on children's future.**

Book clubs and other initiatives are designed help to foster a reading culture.

The OLC aims to be a supportive and stimulating environment which introduces learners to a wide range of media. Independent learning skills are an essential preparation for life and for transition to, and success in, vocational, college or HE courses and the development of such skills enables students to access the increased amount of information and resources that the OLC offers, due to the development of the school's Virtual Learning Environment.

Providing access to the whole school community during and outside of the school day

The OLC and its resources are available to all students and staff at Bishop Challoner<sup>1</sup> for research lessons, reading for pleasure (most books can be borrowed by students for up to two weeks at a time), independent research and private study.

Imaginative and creative events are held in the OLC that offer new experiences and ideas to the students to facilitate student's personal, emotional and academic growth.

**Reviewed November 2017**  
**Awaiting ratification**  
**Next review November 2018**

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<sup>1</sup> With the exception of students who repeatedly break OLC rules. With agreement of their Head of Year, they will be banned from the OLC for a set period of time.

