

Wirral Schools Forum
Schools' Library Service Update
26th September 2019

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report updates the Forum on the recent changes to the Schools' Library Service and the service plans for the future.

BUDGET

The Schools Library Service is a de-delegated service, mainly for Primary Schools although other schools can access services on request. Funding from the Schools' Forum provides £170,100 the equivalent of £7.78 per primary school pupil. The make up of the complete budget is shown below.

2018-2019

Staffing £96,300

Other costs including book fund £63,100

Support Services Recharge £43,600

TOTAL £203,000

Income Secondary Schools £500 cr

Income Academies £4839 cr

Income Premium Service £4500 cr

Income target £23,061 cr

TOTAL £32,900

2019-20 PRIORITIES

- We have been given an income target of £23,061 to make up our budget short fall.
- We haven't increased our charges for a number of years in line with inflationary increases and pay awards. In January we will request Forum's support to increase our available funding as part of the annual De-Delegation report. In the mean time we will review an appropriate increase. Any increase will also be reflected in the SLA provided to academies and secondary schools.
- To increase our academy uptake and extend our service to private nurseries. We also have plans to break into central Liverpool schools who don't have access to a school library service.
- To maintain current level of book, artefact loans and audio visual resource provision for schools as a standard service.

- To continue to promote our premium service with local schools. We currently have 9 schools using our premium service, including a library revamp at Woodlands Primary.
- Our transition scheme continues at Ridgeway and we hope to encourage other secondary schools to buy in. We have had a lot of interest.
- We have successfully encouraged two more whole school academy buy backs and we are hoping to achieve more. Woodslee and Portland Co-op Academies both bought in for this year. We are in the process of contacting governors of all schools to promote the service.
- After a visit from Frank Field in June, we have contacted all local members of parliament to visit. Angela Eagle is visiting on 13th September and Alison McGovern hopes to visit in early October. We would like to extend this invitation to all councillors and chief officers.
- We will be moving within the Council structure shortly to allow for greater commercial support for the service. We would like to thank our manager Peter Aspinall for all his help and support for the last four years and we look forward to working within the Commercial Management team in the Council.

STAFFING

There are currently 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ FTE members of staff:

- 2 * 0.5 Schools' Librarian - job share
- 1 * 0.75 Assistant Schools' Librarian - $\frac{3}{4}$ post
- 1 * Library Manager- ft post

Additional temporary staff members are employed three times a year to help facilitate the collection and delivery of resources to and from schools at the beginning and end of each term.

The service is based at:
 Joseph Paxton Campus
 157 Park Rd North,
 Claughton
 CH41 0DD
 0151 666 3200

Please see our entry in the Wirral Traded Services Brochure for more information on the service we offer.

Louise Rice and Catherine McNally
 Wirral Schools' Library Service

Sept 2019