



School Library Policy

"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things."

Philippians 4:8

At Saint Cecilia's our Library provides a broad range of reading material, intended to cater for all our pupils and students and their different interests and needs.

The nature of fiction for children and young adults has moved forward, with the publication of a multitude of books that reflect an ever-changing world, raising awareness and provoking critical thinking skills. These texts help to develop individuals who are empathetic, articulate, confident and resilient, as they learn to appreciate alternative viewpoints and perspectives.

Our Library stocks a broad range of such reading materials to support pastoral development, teaching and learning. These are made available to all pupils and students with a 'no censorship' approach, but some books are labelled with a red star, because they contain more mature/sensitive content aimed at older readers. This may include, but is not limited to: substance use, violence, profanity, racism, abuse, mental health issues and/or sexual situations and sexuality. These books may be viewed by any pupil or student in the Library but may only be issued to those in Year 9 or above.

We appreciate that some parents/carers might like their Year 7/8 child to have access to all the books in the Library, without restriction. **If you would like your child to have this option, please [email the Library](#).**

Parents/carers of Year 7/8 children also have the option of giving permission for a specific series/author that has a red star, if we receive an email to that effect.

The following websites may be of interest if you wish to find more information about specific books:

www.commonsensemedia.org

www.goodreads.com

arbookfind.co.uk

Whilst we take great care over the selection of new stock for the Library, we are not able to read every book, and we also recognise that individuals will vary in their opinions of what is suitable reading matter for different pupils – and, indeed, that age is not always the only factor that should be considered. We do not categorise our fiction by genre or age but our Library staff are always ready to advise pupils and students regarding books we think may interest them.

We are grateful to parents/carers for maintaining an interest in their child's choice of reading material, and for supporting reading at home.