

Highfield LIBRARY

**‘Libraries Give Us Power’
(School Libraries Association 2011)**



“School libraries can empower students by offering access to new experiences and knowledge as well as stimulating the imagination. They can provide the environment for students to learn how to become independent users of information and discerning readers of fiction.”

(Michael Rosen – Children’s Laureate 2007-2009)



Highfield Humanities College Library remains at the heart of school activity and has a positive impact upon Raising Achievement and Teaching and Learning.

Library Manager - Mrs Angela Simpkin BA (Hons)
Library Assistant – Mrs Debbie Woloncewicz

LIBRARY ACTIVITY

Highfield Humanities College Library is **YOUR** library and contains all the resources that are needed both for studying purposes and for reading for pleasure. It is a pleasant and comfortable information centre designed with students in mind. Our positive ethos ensures our library continues to be a unique and special area in which to work. There is always someone here to help students and staff with choosing books or for information retrieval = **EVERYONE** is made to feel **VERY WELCOME.**

- The library is open throughout the school day.
- Lessons are booked by staff bringing groups to the library.
- Tutor time is used for classes to exchange books.
- The library is open at break and lunch times.
- After school we have a Homework Club which is freely available to all.
- The library is well-stocked with up-to-date resources.
- There are computers in the library which may be used for homework and research activities.
- There is a Reading Club and students play a big part in the Blackpool Teen Fiction Awards.
- We have a Library Monitor scheme for students interested in library work.
- There is a Careers Library to enable students to access information of Further Education and Career choices.
- We resource classrooms with book boxes in order that students can read in Tutor periods.
- Library Induction Classes are given to new students.
- We work with other departments for all joint activities such as Fairtrade status promotion and English/Library events.
- We have a Reading Award Scheme whereby the most prolific readers can win Book Tokens as prizes at the end of term.
- We invite poets to Highfield to celebrate National Poetry Week and guest authors for other special events such as World Book Day
- On Friday lunchtimes we run our Fair-trade Human&Teas Café inviting guests for our special themed events.
- Students are involved in the Blackpool Teen Fiction Awards.
- We have a 'Battle of the Books' Year 7 Reading Challenge.
- We host Peer Mentoring programmes in the library whereby older students can support younger students with any concerns they may have.



SEN AND THE LIBRARY

The library supports the SEN children in the school in many ways.

- Reading Clubs are hosted.
- Paired reading scheme is supported and hosted.
- The library has graded, age appropriate, 'short' readers.
- The library stocks large print books for visually impaired students.
- The library seeks to provide interest appropriate books.
- Students are very strongly encouraged to use the library and have sessions to teach them how to use the library effectively.
- Many SEN students are Library Monitors in order to develop self-esteem and confidence.
- The library is regarded as a safe haven by many SEN students. The ambience, welcome and calm are conducive to needs of vulnerable and SEN students and this is an aim of the library team.

HIGHFIELD EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE SERVICE

This Service is based at Highfield Humanities College (formally Blackpool Schools' Library Service). Through this Service we aim to serve the community, especially the primary students of Blackpool, by providing resources (non-fiction, teachers' resource packs, DVDs, CD-ROMS, photo packs, posters and artefacts) relating to Primary curriculum subjects by way of

termly project loans at a value for money cost. With the Every Child Matters pre-requisite we are delighted to be able to cater for students from different cultural environments to enhance their educational backgrounds, for example, books in translation. This experience makes learning fun for the children and promotes positive mental attitudes towards time spent in school. We always endeavour to supply whatever is requested in the way of the latest and most innovative resources whenever possible to serve our local primary school community. Through our resources it is our aim to not only help with the students' academic progress but to help develop their knowledge, language, expression, cultural awareness and enjoyment of reading and learning. Our Highfield motto is 'Working Together' and this is achieved through this interaction with Primary schools to aid with delivery of the curriculum and to advantage the students.

“Extensive reading and exposure to a wide range of texts make a huge contribution to students’ educational achievement.”

(Reading for Pleasure Policy Statement)

