



# School Libraries and the School Library Service.

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A View from the North



# School Libraries in North Yorkshire

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- Mixed bag – some good, some not so good.



# What is a Good School Library?

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- Where libraries and librarians had a positive impact on teaching and learning.
- Where there is positive leadership by supportive and knowledgeable heads.
- Where librarians use a range of evidence to demonstrate the library's effectiveness.
- Where the Schools Library Services provided good support for schools, including specialist audits and advice, additional resources, training and opportunities for networking.
- The best libraries were not necessarily the newest; they were more likely to have been created gradually through imaginative use of space and resources.



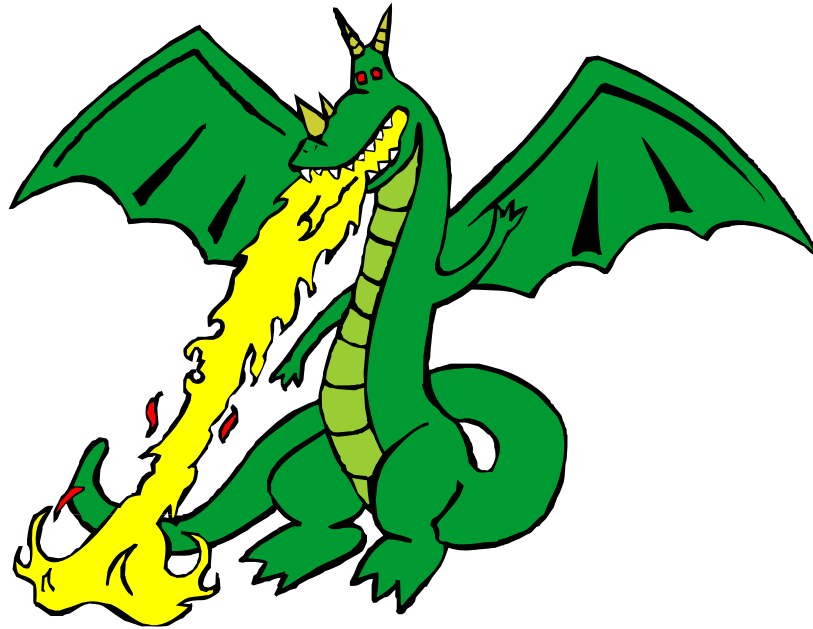
# School Libraries in North Yorkshire

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- Librarians - variously qualified

# The Good School Librarian

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# The Good School Librarian

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- Approachable
- Knowledgeable about books and reading
- Has library training (preferably)
- Ensures effective use of the library.
- Promotes library and information skills.
- Builds partnerships with other staff.



# Reader Development

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- Know your stock
- Know how to promote your stock
- Develop reading groups
- Ask for suggestions from your users
- Develop consultation



# School Libraries in North Yorkshire

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- Budgets – good to atrocious



# Budgets

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- Average spend on library material should be approx. £17.50 per head per year
- Average number of books should be 13 per head
- Books should be on average no more than 10 years old.



# School Libraries in North Yorkshire

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- Librarians - variously qualified
- Budgets – good to atrocious
- Status dependent on Heads
- Similar situation throughout UK

# How have North Yorkshire School Librarians solved their problems?

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- Persistence
- Becoming more visible and vocal
- Increasing their professional status
- Evidencing their impact in their school –self evaluation
- Through joining with the School Library Service and other school librarians to promote themselves - partnerships



# What is Information Literacy?

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- "**Information literacy** is knowing when and why you need information, where to find it, and how to evaluate, use and communicate it in an ethical manner"

CILIP 2007



# Information Literacy Skills

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- This definition implies several skills. CILIP believes that the skills (or competencies) that are required to be information literate require an understanding of:
  - a need for information
  - the resources available
  - how to find information
  - the need to evaluate results
  - how to work with or exploit results
  - ethics and responsibility of use
  - how to communicate or share your findings
  - how to manage your findings.



# Information Literacy: Practical Tips

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- Your job is to know what is in your library and to communicate to your pupils where to find it.
- As teachers you can help them to look at their findings carefully and use them to their best advantage.
- Remind them that cutting and pasting is for notes not for your final presentation!
- Give them skills to choose which information to use and which to discard.



# Final Thoughts

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- You do what **you** can in your library
- Every little helps!

# Bibliography

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- Good school libraries: making a difference to learning **Date** 21-Mar-2006  
**HMI number** 2624 **Publisher** Ofsted
- [www.ofsted.gov.uk/publications/index](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/publications/index)