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New Look, No Shush!

A strategy for our library and
information service.

Presentation for Young People Overview and Scrutiny
Committee,

Friday 11 July 2008

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Our Vision

Our Vision is that the Library and Information Service provides an excellent service that is accessible, relevant to and used by everyone who lives, works or studies in North Yorkshire.





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Our strategy has four strategic aims:



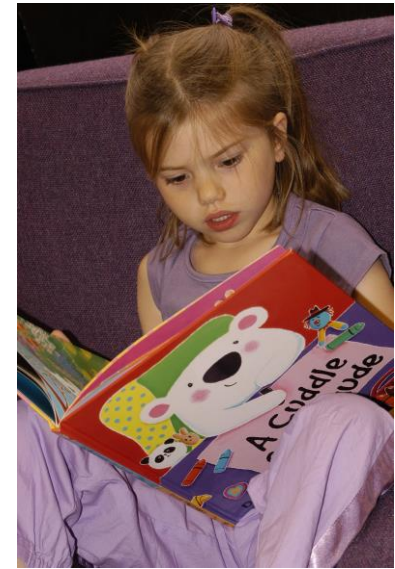


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Our libraries are centres of excellence for:

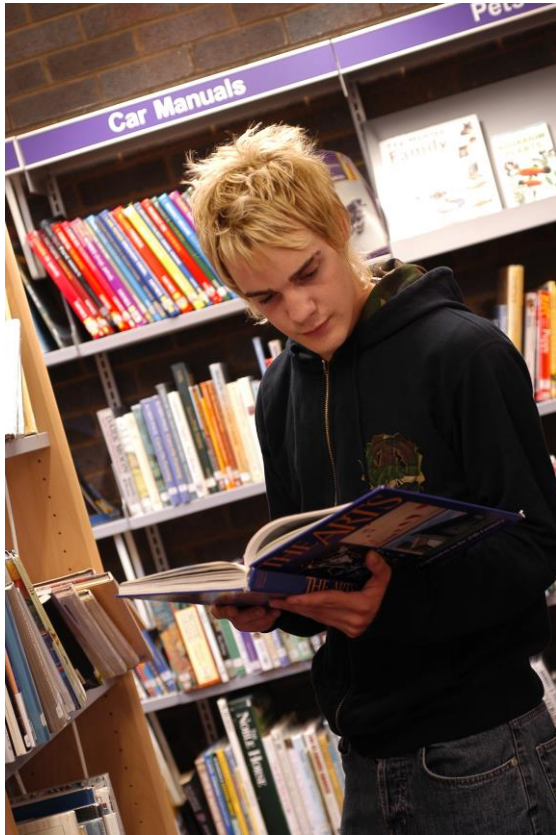
- books and opportunities for reading
- learning
- access to information technology and computers, including the internet





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Our libraries are the venues of choice for information.

- Public Access for all, in partnership with other providers



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Our libraries are relevant and responsive and at the heart of local communities.





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Our library service has a workforce that is committed to these aims and fit for the purpose of delivering them.





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Where are we now?



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A Programme of New and Refurbished Libraries



- Family friendly
- Dedicated children's and teenage areas
- Café areas
- Baby changing facilities



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- Our libraries are recognised as providing a good, traditional library service





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How do libraries support Children & Young People?



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8,633 Children Surveyed

- 99% see the libraries as a safe and friendly place to go
- 94% said the library has lots of things to interest them
- 59% said the library helps them learn and find out things



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- 21% of children who came to the library come to use the computer
- 18% use the library as somewhere quiet to sit and work
- 11.5% come to the library to do their homework
- 8.7% come to the library after school to wait for their parents



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In 07/08:

- 1258 young adults joined the library
- 783 teenagers joined the library
- 9,922 children under 12 joined the library

24% of all books used were issued to 0-14 year olds



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Some of the activities which support and develop reading and learning

- Storytime
- Chatterbooks
- Stories from the Web
- Pied Piper
- Restorative Justice
- Family Learning Week
- Bookstart Month



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Successes.....



- *Bookstart or Bookstart Plus* was delivered to 76% of 0-2 year olds (8,390) in 07/08
- *Treasure Chest* delivered to 6,859 3 year olds
- 27% of 0-3 year olds in North Yorkshire are members of the library.



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School Library Service



- Re-launched in April 2008
- 213 primary & 18 secondary schools subscribe
- 84,683 Project books loaned to schools to support the curriculum
- 74,984 reading books loaned to schools to support reading development



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Successes.....

Summer Reading Challenge

- 7,739 4 -12 year olds started, and
- 5,991 completed it
- Figures 30% above the previous year, which puts us in the top 25% of all Public Library Authorities and well above the national average



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Summer Reading Challenge

Comments from children

“ I feel like I changed the world”. – Greg, aged 9, Harrogate

“It was a very good ecsperions (sic) for me because I don't do a lot of reading”. - boy aged 9 on the Supermobile

“I think that it is much better than playing on a play station”. – boy aged 8, Northallerton



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Summer Reading Challenge

Comments from parents

“I never thought my children would moan at me to take them to the library” – Mum of Georgina and Thomas aged 5 and 10, Harrogate

“Wow! For the first time he has continued to borrow books after completing the challenge and I’ve twice heard him say “*I cant wait to read*”. So thank you” – Great Ayton

“He has struggled in the last year with reading and this has motivated him to continue reading in the holidays. He’s improved greatly, thank you.” - Stokesley

“My son has come on leaps and bounds with his reading in just 6 weeks. Brilliant!” - parent of child aged 6



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Successes.....

- National Year of Reading
- Scarborough Literature Festival

The Literature Festival was “Particularly inspiring to my twelve year old son who has wanted to be an author since he was five”.



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Successes.....

Partnership working with:

- Restorative Youth Justice
- Adult learning
- Children's information service

Youth charter awarded to Pickering, Whitby, Norton, Northallerton and Starbeck Libraries



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Key areas we want to develop -

- Helping to improve community cohesion by:
 - Encouraging local communities to become more involved with their libraries
 - using the facilities
 - Working in partnership - Local groups/ organisations using the library as their venue of choice
 - volunteering
 - choosing stock
 - running the library



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- Modernising and transforming services to make them accessible more often by :
 - Co-locating library services with other partners
 - Developing the range of services available via new technology.



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- Libraries as the place to come for information
 - County and District Council Services
 - Health and other agencies
 - Local community information e.g. Talis 'Engage'