



ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE

LIBRARY BOOK SELECTION POLICY

St. Michael's College Library aims to provide a wide range of material for use by both staff and students of St. Michael's. This material includes fiction, nonfiction and reference items amongst others. These items are intended to further both the education and research skills of students. Books selected for the library are selected in order to inform, enlighten and entertain students through fiction, nonfiction, poetry, graphics and magazines.

Students range in age roughly from 12 to 19 and books are selected to cater for this entire age range. Staff of the school also use the library and as such, there is a wide range of material from which both staff and students can make their choice.

As it is so important that all young people and students are encouraged to read as wide a variety of material as possible, as few restrictions as possible should be placed on them and their choice of reading material. It is not possible for staff to decide what book should be read by each student at a particular time and as such students are allowed to borrow anything from the collection. Parents, as the primary educators, are advised to discuss reading material with their children.

FICTION

Both popular and more literary fiction books are purchased by the library and the selection criteria as follows-

- Suggestions from staff and students
- Reviews in journals and newspapers
- Relevant to current affairs (e.g. 1916 centenary)
- Caters to all ages groups
- Spans a wide variety of styles and interests

Individual items are also assessed on their condition, appearance and content.

NONFICTION

Nonfiction is selected in order to support the curriculum and ongoing lessons, as well as to provide information on hobbies and general interest. The selection criteria for these books are as follows-

- Suggestions from staff and students
- Reviews in journals and newspapers
- Relevant to current affairs (e.g. 1916 centenary)
- Caters to all ages groups

St. Michael's College Library

- Spans a wide variety of styles and interests
- Teaching guides and notes
- Fills in gaps in the collection
- Introduces new subject areas

Individual items are also assessed on their condition, appearance and content. Nonfiction books are also evaluated on how accurate/up to date the information is and how easy is it to locate within the item.

The above criteria apply to all library items- newly purchased, current stock and any donations to the library.

Donations may be made to the library but on the clear understanding that they will be subject to the same criteria and will be treated like all other library stock. In practice, donated items will either be integrated into the collection, donated or recycled, depending on which is deemed appropriate.