School Librarians will ensure that there is a welcoming, friendly and relaxing space for children and young people returning to school

Pupils who have access to welcoming, well-equipped libraries, with books well-matched to their interests, said they used their school library for those reasons and because, for many, it was a safe haven

(Wood, Clark et al., 2020)

School Librarians will help to support the mental wellbeing of children and young people

National Literacy Trust research shows that children and young people who use the school library have, on average, higher mental wellbeing scores

(Clark & Teravainen-Goff, 2018)

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School Librarians and Libraries will help to support disadvantaged children who have not had access to books in lockdown

Pupils eligible for free school meals are more likely to use their school library daily

(Clark &Teravainen-Goff)

Reading enjoyment has been reported as more important for children's educational success than their family's socio-economic status

(OECD, 2002)

School Libraries will help to support disadvantaged children who have not had access to computers in lockdown

Children and young people reported they valued the computers in their library

(Clark & Teravainen-Goff, 2018)

School Librarians will help students understand the difference between reliable and unreliable sources of information

"As children are living in an increasingly digital world, it is vitally important that they are able to separate fact from fiction and challenge or question any misinformation they may come across"

Children and Families Minister Vicky Ford (2021)

Charity partnership the UK Safer Internet Centre questioned 2,021 children aged between eight and 17-years old about their online habits, revealing that 48 per cent said they came across misleading content at least once a day, with 24 per cent adding they encountered it between two and five times each day

(Safer Internet Day press release 2021)

National Literacy Trust

CILIP The library and information association

School Librarians will help children and young people to enjoy reading again

Some children and young people reported that a lack of access to books (with schools and libraries closed), a lack of quiet space at home and a lack of school/peer support had negatively affected their ability to read and their motivation to read for enjoyment

(Clark & Picton, 2020))

International evidence indicates schools with libraries and librarians impact positively on reader enjoyment, children's attitudes to learning and reading outcomes and attainment

Teresa Cremin, Professor of Education (Literacy) Quoted on Great School Libraries website

School Librarians and Libraries will help to support academic recovery for children and young people

Pupils who use the school library told us that it helps them learn

73% of the children and young people who use the school library have, on average, higher literacy engagement scores than their peers who don't use the school library

(Clark & Tervainen-Goff, 2018)

School Librarians and Libraries will help children and young people get back into the reading habit and re-engage with learning

Those disadvantaged students who experienced academic enrichment in Key Stage 3 (reading and engaging in educational and library visits in secondary school) obtained on average 50 points more on their total GCSE score, two and a half points more in GCSE English and three points (or half a grade) more in GCSE maths than disadvantaged students who were not engaged in these activities

(Sammons, Toth and Silva, 2015)

School Librarians encourage reading widely, and reading for pleasure, which broadens empathy and helps vulnerable children know they are not alone

Evidence suggests that reading for pleasure is an activity that has emotional and social consequences

(Clark and Rumbold, 2006)

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