



School Library Association

Guidelines for SLYA nominations

All nominations are initially presented to the judging panel with all identities removed. It is therefore really important, to enable your nomination to have the best chance of proceeding, that you follow instructions fully.

In particular:

- Please back up statements fully. Saying you have the best Librarian in the world is not enough. Please give us evidence of a positive impact on teaching and learning to support that statement.
- Please provide evidence of reading promotion AND information literacy work, where appropriate.
- Please only provide what you are asked to provide, sending ten photographs when we ask for one will not help your cause.
- Please put all information, personal comments and reflection (?) on the form. We have to judge all nominations on the same criteria and if you send additional material you may have to be excluded. We will contact schools when we want further information.

Finally, if you are unsuccessful do not be put off. We have many nominations and competition is extremely strong. We respond to all unsuccessful nominations and where appropriate will explain why your nomination was not successful. If you are encouraged to apply again it is because you were very close to meeting the criteria and we will give feedback about the points to work on.

Some examples from past nominations which impressed us:

Professional and Personal Qualities

“Outstanding communication skills and creative ability which brings reading to ‘life’ for pupils”

“Her enthusiasm and hard work have transformed a dingy library corner into a vibrant and popular learning space”

“His commitment to encouraging pupils to develop their information skills boosts their confidence and prepares them for whatever life will throw at them”

“He is passionate about reading and information literacy”

Recent Projects

NB this could be a bulleted list of recent projects undertaken.

“He conducted a whole staff training session on inset day to promote library awareness”

“She plans days/ when the whole school is focused around books. Authors come into school and there are competitions and book related activities for the pupils”

“She created an online questionnaire to find out how effective the library was and where improvements could be introduced”

“Introduced local book award shadowing which introduced the students to authors they wouldn’t otherwise read and now they are much more receptive to trying different genres”

Innovation

New activities undertaken in your school.

“She introduced highly successful library sessions for all Year 7 & 8s. These are interactive information literacy which showcase her natural teaching ability”

“She created eye-catching induction materials for the new Year 7 intake and was involved in planning for a successful transition for pupils from the local primary schools”

“He is a member of the School Improvement Group and they lead on innovation in learning throughout the school. They have designed sessions on e-learning for the students”

“She introduced storybags for the early years children who needed an additional tactile element to help them understand the story better”

“He put together the whole school information literacy policy and implemented weekly information skills lessons for year 7”

Transformation

The magic creative spark that makes your library different.

“Before she became our librarian the library was unfriendly and inaccessible. Now it is a colourful, cheerful place and everyone can visit the library on at least three days of the week”

“She has bought masses of new fiction and library loans have gone from about 6,000 a year to well over 10,000 and the figure is going up all the time”

“The LRC is now a much more active environment which is used to empower students’ learning”

“As a key member of the team developing our creative curriculum he has helped to transform the way our pupils learn by ensuring the library is central to the new planning”

Promotion

“Promotes the library in newsletters, on the VLE, has regular items on Governors’ meeting agendas and sends flyers and bulletins out to parents to promote activities and events”

“She is often at staff meetings and assemblies to promote events and innovations”

“He is brilliant at promoting the library to parents and many have said to me the library was the main reason for choosing the school. He has regular sessions where the library is open to parents to come and choose and discuss books with their children.”

“She runs an after school club for families and the wider community”

“She has tirelessly promoted the library to the whole school and it now has an atmosphere which is really beneficial to learning”