



Evidence shows that CPD helps retain staff and the School Library Association believes that attendance at the SLA weekend course allows for this vital professional development, training and networking.

Please use any of these statements that you think may help influence an argument for you attending the annual weekend course for CPD and networking opportunities. Let us know if a particular argument has worked for you, and may therefore help others.

In terms of professional development library staff should:

- Have the same entitlement to INSET and Continuing Professional Development opportunities as teaching staff
- Be allowed time to network with other school librarians and actively participate in professional groups outside their school
- Be able to keep up to date with current library and educational trends, enabling the school library to subsequently play a full part in school development and act effectively and in a proactive manner to support the developing needs of all curriculum departments within school

Comments from delegates at the 2021 Online SLA Weekend Course:

- *Considering the event was completely online, this was a fantastic professional Learning opportunity that provided me with time to think about my own learning.*
- *The course was beneficial to review your own practice and see if there are opportunities to improve. It gives you ideas about what might work in your school setting.*
- *Plenty of great content to use in my setting and things to try. Plus I won a competition - adding the books to our catalogue for the benefit of our pupils.*

School libraries have been found to positively impact the below, and to do this effectively library staff need access to CPD, networking and book and educational knowledge, all of which is provided at the Weekend Course, making it cost effective and efficient.

- Pupils' general academic attainment
- Reading and writing skills
- Wider learning skills
- Pupils' scores in history, mathematics and science
- Pupils' reading enjoyment, reading behaviour and attitudes towards reading
- Motivation and attitudes
- Personal and interpersonal outcomes, such as self-esteem and the feeling of success and accomplishment

(The National Literacy Trust, 2017)



Thank you so much for putting together and delivering such a great programme despite very unusual circumstances!