



Press Release - SLA Inspiration Award Shortlist 2017

2017 sees a wonderful selection of inspiring school libraries to reach the shortlist of the SLA Inspiration Award. This year we received the greatest number of nominations for both the primary and secondary categories of the SLA Inspiration Award. After much discussion, these were whittled down to six longlisted secondary schools and four longlisted primary schools. Visits took place with two judges attending each school. Then, apart from one school library which was so new that not every aspect had been completed and students had not yet begun to use the facility, so it was recommended that the school reapply with impact data for the next year's award, an unprecedented full house of school libraries progressed to the shortlisted stage. It was simply impossible to discount any of these inspirational school libraries from a list to recommend to other schools.

The primary schools are all state primaries managing to find innovative ways to fund great designs to ensure their children experience an immersive reading culture in school. From a woodland themed first school library at Charford, to mural covered walls at Adderley and a big red double decker bus in the playground at New Milton, all offer a unique approach to providing their pupils with books to start the reading habit.

Adderley Primary

Birmingham B8 1DZ

Charford First School

Charford Road Bromsgrove Worcestershire B60 3QR

New Milton Infants

Lymington Road New Milton Hants BH25 6PZ

The secondary schools have invested heavily in their school libraries. All have devoted a great deal of time and money to their school library designs, and continue to do so with their professionally qualified school librarians running these great facilities. Each school has invested in what is right for them, and all their applications have lived up to the reality we saw on our visits.

American School of Madrid

Stanton Gruffis Learning Commons, Calle America 3
Pozuelo De Alarcon Madrid 28224

Culford School

Culford Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP28 6TX

Headington

Headington School, Oxford. OX3 7TD

Hymers College

Hymers Avenue Hull East Riding of Yorkshire HU13 1LW

Kingham Hill School

Kingham Chipping Norton Oxon OX7 6TH

Princethorpe College

Leamington Road Rugby Warwickshire CV23 9PX

More details on each school will appear on the SLA website over the next 3 weeks. The Award celebration will take place in Central London on Monday October 2nd and the winners will be announced that day!

The School Library Inspiration Award has been created to set future standards for the recognition of excellence in school library design. The award will be made biennially to the school library space that shows inspiration, innovation, creativity and resourcefulness in its library design and in use, either through creative use of specific products or promotions.

Gresswell www.gresswell.co.uk

School Library Association www.sla.org.uk

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Note to editors:

The SLA supports the role of the school library as a place 'to support reading and learning through the key stages and to foster a reading and information culture to promote independent, motivated readers and learners for life'. As suppliers of specialist resources to school, academic and public libraries, Gresswell are committed to a focus on the benefits to a school of a library space and is working with the School Library Association to support, encourage and promote these spaces.

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