

DUNEDIN PUBLIC LIBRARIES

YOUNG ADULTS COLLECTION POLICY 2016

SCOPE

This policy is primarily concerned with the young adults' collection in the City library but its principles are also expected to cover the development of the young adults' collections at the Mosgiel, Port Chalmers, Blueskin Bay, and Waikouaiti Libraries, and Book Bus collections.

1. Collection Scope

The collection provides for the recreational and personal needs of young adults. In February 2016, almost 24,000 young adults were registered as library members. The collection does not aim to provide school textbooks or materials designed especially for classroom use.

2. Collection Purpose

Dunedin Public Libraries endorses the Library and Information Association of New Zealand Aotearoa's Policy on Library Services to Children and Young People, revised March 17, 1995 and available at:

http://www.lianza.org.nz/sites/default/files/lianza_statement_-_lib_services_to_children_young_people.pdf.

The collection aims to provide the widest possible selection of high quality resources to assist the development and recreation of young adults. It seeks to assist young readers to develop mature reading skills, to foster a love of literature and learning, and to stimulate the imagination, the creative use of language, and the critical faculties. The collection supports NCEA curriculum requirements as stated in Dunedin Public Libraries' Learning Support Policy and is used by young adults, secondary school teachers, and other youth providers. The needs of young people are paramount in making collection decisions. Titles from around the world are chosen on the basis of literary quality and their appeal to young adults.

3. History

Specialised services for young people aged 13-18 have been provided by Dunedin Public Libraries since the 1940s.

4. Description of Collection

Materials are purchased to provide for diverse interests, tastes, reading abilities, and information needs. The collection includes books, magazines, Playaways, Graphic Novels and talking books and focuses on young people's recreational and personal needs, since the children's and adult non-fiction sections provide materials for school projects and other educational needs. The greater part of the collection consists of fiction, mostly in paperback and distinguished by genre labels where appropriate. New Zealand fiction and short stories are chosen, as well as true-to-life, historical, romantic, mystery, horror, humour, and fantasy and science fiction titles. The non-fiction section provides a range of subjects, including perennial issues such as drugs and alcohol, relationships and sexual issues, and includes some reference materials related to life skills and careers. It is expected that, for other curriculum based information requirements, young adults will consult adult and children's materials. Magazines are chosen on the basis of general appeal to young people and of recreational interest. A few specialised titles provide for particular interests, eg gaming. While the collection is primarily in the English language some provision is made for selecting materials in Te Reo, Pacific and other languages as deemed appropriate.

5. Housing

Young adults' books, magazines and audio materials are primarily displayed in the Teen Space on the 2nd Floor of the City Library with smaller collections in the Community Libraries and Book buses. The Youth fiction stack containing older young adult books is kept in the City Library's Upper Basement and amalgamates the Children's fiction stack.

6. Valuation

Young adults' materials form part of the total valuation of lending materials carried out approximately every two years for insurance purposes. Lending collections are depreciated at the rate of 20% of the purchase price over five years.

7. Collection Management

Responsibility for selection rests with the Collection Specialists chosen for their understanding of young adults and their needs, and a knowledge of the broad field of children's literature.

7.1 Selection Tools

Selection tools include School Library Journal, Horn Book, The Bulletin, Australian Book Review, and Magpies. Awareness is enhanced through media scanning, local buying, and suggestions from teens and special interest groups.

7.2 Selection Guidelines

Special consideration is given to:

- The requirements of young people from the early teens to adulthood, with varying levels of reading and comprehension skills
- Currency of materials
- New Zealand content, particularly of local interest
- Classic titles republished recently with contemporary covers
- Suggestions from young people
- Use of explicit sexual language or content with regard to what is generally considered appropriate for this age group
- Visual appeal

7.3 Deselection

In order to keep the collections looking current and inviting, materials which appear worn or dated or attract low use are withdrawn regularly and an optimum collection size is aimed for.

Deselection of library materials is carried out in order to keep collections up to date, to prevent shelf crowding, and to ensure that the contents of shelves look fresh and attractive. The following criteria are taken into account when decisions are made:

- Physical condition
- Outdated or inaccurate content
- Number of duplicate copies remaining in the collections
- Expected future use
- Number of issues since the work was acquired
- Number of recent issues
- Status as a standard work or classic
- Historical or research value
- Supersession by new edition
- Availability elsewhere in Dunedin or New Zealand
- Practicality and cost of repair

Classic works attracting low use but of a perennial nature or works by very well regarded authors and/or medal winners are retained in the Youth fiction stack for use upon request. Some of these latter works are regularly purchased in new editions to attract greater interest.

8. Formats

Materials are provided in the following formats:

- Books (paperbacks are usually selected but hardback versions are purchased if published prior to paperbacks and if long-term durability is desired)
- Magazines
- Audio formats such as Playaways, MP3s, and CDs

9. Donations

Donations are gratefully received by the Library, and may on some occasions be actively sought. Their retention, however, is subject to the judgment of relevant Collection Specialists. The Library reserves the right to make decisions concerning

suitability for the collections, and acceptance will be guided by the relevant selection guidelines.

11. Preservation and Repair

Collection items will be repaired and rebound appropriate to their age, condition and expected future use. Items will be replaced wherever possible, by new or second hand copies.

12. Review

This policy will be reviewed within five years.

Endorsed by Senior Management Team 2016