

SCHOOL SERVICES – CURRICULUM INFORMATION SERVICE

What is The Curriculum Information Service?

The Curriculum Information Service (CIS) is one of the services offered by the National Library School Services. The CIS provides free loans of curriculum-related resources to New Zealand primary and secondary school teachers, school librarians and to home schooling families, to support student learning in New Zealand.

What resources are available?

CIS has 3 lending collections based in Auckland, Palmerston North and Christchurch. These collections hold in excess of 550,000 items and issue well over a million items each year to teachers at school all over New Zealand.

The collections development is done by a team of Librarians, called Learning Area Selectors each having a responsibility for a specific curriculum area. They identify new materials for purchase for all three CIS collections, through a process of monitoring curriculum developments, feedback from reference librarians and clients, reviewing journals, the Internet and many other avenues.

Resources include children's, teen and young adult books, both fiction and non-fiction, videos, CD-ROMs, DVDs and kits: Reference Librarians will also recommend curriculum-related Internet sites. The curriculum areas covered are the arts, health and physical wellbeing, language and languages, maths, science, social sciences and technology. We have collections of Māori resources in English and Te Reo and some in Pacific Island languages as well.

Who can borrow?

School library staff, primary and secondary school teachers, student teachers while on section, home schooling families, and relieving teachers (1 term minimum) can borrow. Short-term relievers can borrow on the classroom teacher's record, with their written permission. To request resources, teachers can use the telephone, Fax, e-mail or an online request form, come in and select resources in person and if they really want to can still post us a request by 'snail mail.'

E-Resources

The National Library has also been involved in many collaborative projects developing access for schools to e-resources such as:

EPIC: <http://www.tki.org.nz/r/epic/> an initiative by New Zealand libraries to give New Zealand schools access to a worldwide range of online resources.

DISCOVER: <http://discover.natlib.govt.nz/index.shtml> is a database of resources selected for use by New Zealand schools.

ANYQUESTIONS.CO.NZ www.anyquestions.co.nz where school students can chat 'live' with a reference librarian who will help them find the answer in real time.

The Curriculum Information Service staff are very client focussed and committed to providing the best resources and services to all our clients.

Advisory Services

The National Library's School Services Advisory Service supports the development of school libraries and offers information and advice on aspects of school library planning, management and development.

National Library Advisers support schools by:

- providing information and guidance for school library development
- assisting with the development of a collection that reflects curriculum needs
- providing advice for a new or remodeled library
- providing referrals to schools that demonstrate good practice
- sharing information with library staff about current trends during network meetings
- providing professional development in seminars and courses
- facilitating school-wide information literacy programmes
- providing advice on the management of school-wide resources

Advisers are also responsible for implementing the Focus Programme. This programme assists schools to plan and develop their libraries. A three to five year school development plan is produced and implemented.