

SOUTH COAST COOPERATIVE LIBRARIES – COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY

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1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy is to clarify for:

- i) the public
- ii) the governing bodies that make up the South Coast Cooperative Libraries (Shoalhaven City Council, Kiama Municipal Council)
- iii) the library staff

The criteria used for collection development, selection, de-selection and collection maintenance.

The Collection Development Policy is the master plan for building and maintaining the collections of the South Coast Cooperative Libraries to meet community needs. The Policy will need to be revised over time to take into account changing community interests, budget constraints, space limitations, advances in technology, and the large volume of publishing

2. STATEMENT

A Collection Development Policy is the framework which underpins the direction and the development of the Library Collections to assist in meeting our Community needs. This policy contains information about each of the partner Libraries and the environments in which we operate, including demographic and client data and establishes criteria for each collection area.

3. PROVISIONS

3.1. Definition of Collection Development

Collection Development is the process of ensuring a well-balanced collection that meets the information and recreational needs of its population, building diverse collections in print and non-book formats, also e-collections and resources using a consistent approach.

The objectives of this Collection Development Policy are to:

- inform the public of the library's selection parameters and the nature and scope of the collection to meet community needs
- ensure the library meets the information needs of its population
- determine the criteria for collection development and collection maintenance within the Library Service
- identify the scope, depth and utility of the collection
- prepare a guide and a basis for future collection development
- set standards for inclusion and exclusion
- aid in de-selection and the ongoing evaluation of the collections relevance
- provide Council with an information tool for Library Service evaluation
- assist with budgetary allocations and funding priorities
- guide staff in handling collection content queries
- guide and train staff in collection development and maintenance

3.2. Library Overview South Coast Cooperative Libraries & Communities

The South Coast Cooperative Libraries consists of two local government areas working together to provide quality library services to their communities. These Local Government Areas are: Shoalhaven City Council, and Kiama Municipal Council.

Under the terms of the South Coast Cooperative Libraries Agreement, Shoalhaven Libraries – Nowra takes primary responsibility for the selection, purchasing and processing of items and is also responsible for the maintenance of the database and Systems administration. The varying needs of each LGA are accounted for in the selection process.

All service points have on-line access to the Library Management System (LMS) hosted and managed by LIBERO at Shoalhaven City Council. The Shoalhaven Libraries Mobile Library Services operates on a standalone laptop using wireless technology.

There are eight service points, plus 2 Mobile Libraries within the Cooperative Libraries:

Shoalhaven

Nowra (Central Library)

Ulladulla

Sanctuary Point

Milton

Mobile Library North

Mobile Library South

Kiama

Kiama (Central Library)

Gerringong

Each of the two library services is managed by a Library professional, appointed by each particular Council. The Manager of Shoalhaven Libraries is also the Cooperative Library Manager and in collaboration with the Library Manager of Kiama, takes responsibility for the development and maintenance of the collections of the Cooperative.

The South Coast Cooperative Libraries Committee consists of an elected representative (Councillor) of each participating Council; Group Director or equivalent responsible for library services at each Council and the Library Managers from each Council.

Each library service employs a mix of professional librarians, paraprofessionals, full time and part time library assistants as well as casual library assistants. Volunteers are also used across the library services as necessary.

3.3. Population Analysis of the LGA

Figures used have been gathered using the ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016.

The communities served by the Shoalhaven, and Kiama Libraries are diverse and include sea changers, baby boomers, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders, small CALD populations, students and retirees. A breakdown of age groups and related community profile statistics are shown in the table below.

	Shoalhaven LGA		Kiama LGA	NSW Average
Area	4,561 sq kms		259 sq kms	
Population	99,490		21,464	
0-4 years	5.1%		4.6%	6.2%
5-9years	5.7%		4.6%	6.4%
10-14 years	5.5%		5.4%	5.9%
15-19 years	5.3%		5.5%	6.0%
20-24 years	4.6%		4.8%	6.5%
25-34 years	9.4%		8.0%	14.2%
35-49 years	15.9%		16.6%	20.0%
50-59 years	14.1%		14.3%	12.8%
60-69 years	16.2%		15.5%	10.7%
70-84 years	14.8%		16.2%	8.9%
85 and over	3.2%		4.5%	2.2%
Median Age	48		50	38
Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders	5.5%		1.6%	2.9%
Unemployed*	6.6%		5.0%	6.3%
Internet Connection	77.5%		83.6%	82.5%
Library Membership (2015)	37.35%		52.27%	40.25%
High (Household) income*(\$3000+)	6.8%		15.0%	18.7%
Low (Household) Income (\$650 or less per week)*	27.9%		22.3%	19.7%
Non English Speaking background (CALD)	5.8%		7.0%	26.5%

*Based on 2016 figures. New release figures due 2021

3.4. Issues

- ageing population
- relatively large indigenous population in the Shoalhaven LGA
- lack of public transport/reliance on cars for commuting
- high unemployment in the Shoalhaven LGA
- below average internet connection in the Shoalhaven LGA
- LGA large and dispersed geographic area

3.5. Library Client Profile

Our Libraries run a number of programs and services which cater to:

- babies & pre-schoolers
- primary and secondary school students
- tertiary students
- those with special needs, including the frail, aged and housebound
- lifelong learners
- recreational readers and information seekers
- researchers
- businesspeople and owners
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders
- small CALD (Culturally & Linguistically Diverse) communities

Population profiles impact on the collection development process and should be considered when collecting items for the libraries

4. IMPLEMENTATION

4.1. Collection Responsibility

The Manager of Shoalhaven Libraries as the Cooperative Library Manager, in collaboration with the Library Manager of Kiama, takes overall responsibility for the development of the collections of the Cooperative.

4.2. Collection Management

Ongoing evaluation and management of each of the collections is the responsibility of professional staff at each of the partner libraries.

Collections must be maintained to preserve its currency and presentation by maximising shelving and floor-space and so they are relevant to their Communities. Old, damaged and underused materials should be discarded (de-selected).

4.3. Selection Responsibility

The Senior Management Team at Nowra takes primary selection responsibility for each branch of Shoalhaven Libraries and for Kiama Library Services.

The selection of non-book items is primarily through standing orders with some individual selection during onsite visits from Specialist Suppliers.

All Branch Library Managers have input into the selection process by identifying subject gaps, and specific titles. Staff who have expertise in a subject area, also assess resources for selection as required.

A small percentage of items are selected at the local Branch level.

4.4. Suggestions from the Public

Community input to the collection is encouraged through the suggestion for purchase scheme. Requests are always considered and are purchased if they conform to the criteria adopted in this policy.

4.5. Collection Evaluation

The collection needs to be constantly evaluated to identify subject gaps and to maintain its relevance to the community. A balanced up to date collection of materials is essential to a quality library.

The emphasis on popular materials to meet local needs is important. Community and social expectations are constantly changing, and information needs to be kept up to date with changing trends.

Each type of material is considered on its own merits and the audience for whom it is intended. No single standard can be applied to all items.

Involved in collection evaluation is the experience and knowledge of staff, familiarity with the community and its needs and demands, other library resources available, the existing collection and the resource budget.

Each area of the collection is examined as part of the whole collection with consideration also given to the specific and unique needs of each branch and their demographic characteristics.

When evaluating collection areas, the following factors are considered:

- clientele/usage
- scope of the collection
- selection criteria
- de-selection requirements
- format
- future plans
- availability elsewhere
- cost
- diversity

4.6. De-Selected Items

De-selected items are cancelled and the record removed from the Library Management System. Items are sold to the public on a continuous basis at most libraries of the South Coast Co-operative.

4.7. Selection Methodology

A number of resources are used to select items for the collection:

- online databases
- library suppliers – onsite visits and online ordering.
- local retailers - bookshop visits
- standing orders - large print, non-book items, popular authors (children's & adult) and some reference material

- catalogues, promotional materials and pre-publication advice (hard copy and online)
- bibliographies
- professional library & publishing journals
- customer requests, suggestions, recommendations
- best seller lists
- media reviews / coverage
- usage and satisfaction surveys
- evaluation of donations
- social media/websites
- suggestions from the public

Unsolicited items will be considered and added to the collection if they meet the selection criteria in this policy.

4.8. Censorship / Controversial Material

The South Coast Cooperative Libraries aim to provide resources representing all views in all fields, including political, social and religious, regardless of topic.

The primary objective of the Public Library is to serve as a place where free and open access to ideas and information on all subjects is available. The Library will select a range of items and make them available for the education, information and enrichment of the Community, for all ages and levels of ability and interest.

Our Libraries respect the rights of individuals to pursue their own interests, and to explore any and all ideas. The role of censor lies with the appropriate State and Federal bodies. The Library will ensure that items prohibited by law are not purchased for the Library collection. Parents and guardians are responsible for the suitability of library items or information accessed by their children.

The selection of items will not be inhibited by the possibility that inappropriate items may inadvertently come to the possession of children.

The South Coast Cooperative Libraries supports the Australian Library and Information Association's (ALIA) Statement on free access to information

<https://www.alia.org.au/about-alia/policies-standards-and-guidelines/statement-free-access-information>

4.9. Text Books / Educational Materials

The South Coast Cooperative Libraries support individuals of all ages pursuing independent learning, from pre-schoolers to retirees.

School libraries remain the primary source of curricula material in the community, with the public library collection acting as a supplementary source for homework help. Resources to assist high school students in relevant study areas are also purchased.

Academic curriculum textbooks are generally not purchased but may be considered if they satisfy a wider interest. Open learning and individual research is also supported.

4.10. Formats

Resources are collected in whatever format is suitable for the target audience. Some titles are collected in a number of formats to satisfy community expectations.

Formats collected include but are not limited to:

- audio-book – CD (adult, youth, children); MP3; playback devices
- CD – music
- digital formats – e-books, e-audiobooks, e-magazines
- DVDs – adult and children
- Dyslexic
- emergent technologies as applicable
- games (selected branches)
- Home Education
- kit – book and audio format
- large print – hardback, trade paperback
- map (Local Studies)
- microform – microfiche and microfilm – Genealogy
- monograph – hardback, trade paperback
- newspapers, online subscriptions
- online resources – subscription databases
- pamphlet
- photograph – Local Studies
- serials - adult, youth, junior; online subscriptions

4.11. Adult Selection (Fiction and Non-Fiction)

Books recognised as literary classics are retained even though they may contain outdated concepts. Items can also be selected that use unacceptable terms or inappropriate language. Some fiction titles are considered to be standard and are replaced as they wear out.

Resources (book and non-book) relevant to the adult collection are selected based on the following criteria:

- currency
- popular interest / demand
- relevance – appropriateness to Library and/or community
- suitability of the format
- cost
- Australian content

Non-fiction content is also assessed on:

- Reliability of content / author
- Existing subject coverage in the collection
- Current trends

4.12. Children’s Selection (0-12 years) (Fiction and Non-Fiction)

Books and non–book materials chosen for children (0-12) are selected based on the following criteria:

- Currency
- Popular Interest / Demand
- Relevance - appropriateness to the age (0-12)
- Suitability of the format
- Cost
- Australian content

The selection criteria used for children’s resources also includes an assessment of:

- appropriateness of language and themes for the target group (simplicity does not necessarily equate to inferior quality)
- integrity
- extension of the child’s experiences

Items which meet school curricula demands are considered and purchased if they meet the collection development criteria.

As with Adult Fiction, books recognised as literary classics are retained even though they may have outdated concepts. Items can also be selected that use unacceptable terms or inappropriate language. The reliability of the author and content plus existing subject coverage is also a consideration with selection of children’s non- fiction items.

Series are also included in the collection. They are popular and are used as steppingstones to other resources. Children’s series titles are continually reviewed to keep up with community expectations.

4.13. Young Adults Selection (13-20)

Books and non–book materials (fiction and non-fiction) chosen for young adults are assessed using the same criteria as for Adults and children. The appropriateness to the age is taken into account at point of selection.

4.14. Multiple Copies

Because of the geographic distribution of the branches of the South Coast Cooperative and the heavy usage of some resources, duplicate copies of items in heavy demand are purchased in each collection area.

Standing order lists for popular Adult Fiction and Children and Youth Fiction authors are also collated to ensure receipt of best seller titles.

4.15. The Collections

The Library Collection consists of two major sections:

Not for Loan Collection (Reference) – non-fiction books, Local Studies, Family History/Genealogy, pamphlets, newspapers, some periodicals, online databases and other formats as available.

Lending Collection - adult, junior and youth fiction, adult, junior and youth non-fiction collections, large print books, audio-books, in multiple formats, e-audiobooks and e-Book download access; magazines, downloadable magazines, music CDs, DVDs, kits Home Education Collection and Dyslexic Collection Other collection areas, in a range of formats, are added as required.

4.16. Gifts/Donations

Donated material can be a valuable addition to the library's collection. South Coast Cooperative Libraries accept donations of items on the understanding that these will only be included in the collection if they meet the selection criteria applied to the collection areas outlined in this policy.

Donated items must be in good condition. Generally donated stock published more than 3 years previously is not accepted unless they meet the selection criteria for that specific area.

All donations become the property of the South Coast Cooperative Library with the library reserving the right to dispose of donated material if it is not required for inclusion in the collection. Such material would be included in the Library's book sale, donated to other organisations or charities or disposed of through appropriate means.

General exclusions from the collection will include material which is

- a duplication of not needed titles
- Published in an unsuitable format
- Highly technical in nature
- Impractical i.e. too large or too small
- In poor condition
- Not related to current Collection Development Policy guidelines

Self-published works (physical)

Self-publishing is a growth area and the South Coast Cooperative Libraries actively supports writers in the community. The library will consider the acquisition (through purchase or donation) of self-published works where the item adds value to the library collection, is local in content, is published in a suitable format, is professionally edited, has appeal to readers and generally meets the Library's selection criteria as outlined in this policy. Duplicate copies of titles by local authors may be purchased for other branches and/or Local Heritage collections if the title contains local content and is of high local interest.

Self-published works (e-books/e-audio)

Currently the South Coast Cooperative Library Service is not able to accept self-published electronic works. In the future it is anticipated that this service will be available and the above criteria regarding self-published works will be used to select suitable items.

4.17. Stack Collection

A number of Branches of the South Coast Cooperative Libraries have items stored away from the main circulation area and housed in a 'Stack' area. Shoalhaven Libraries - Nowra holds a large collection of stack items. Most of the items held in Stack are accessible through the online catalogue. The Collection includes:

- additional copies of series or complete sets of older series
- items still used but in poor condition (replacements are purchased when available)
- literary classics for adults and children
- Australian classics
- items of historical significance
- non-fiction items – Australian and international- considered to be of value
- valuable items
- literary award winners – fiction and non-fiction

The Stack collection is continually evaluated, using the Collection evaluation criteria to ensure the stock continues to meet the needs of the community.

4.18. Future Policy Directions

The aims of collecting must be user access and service provision e.g. a client centred approach to collection development and effective resource utilisation.

We are facing a time of continuous technological change and e-resources and associated emergent digital technologies associated with these resources will impact on our future collection development. These technologies are increasingly significant within the collection profile and this trend is sure to continue.

De-selection recommendations mentioned in the collection profile should be used in conjunction with the De-selection Guidelines established for the libraries of the South Coast Cooperative.

Regular User Surveys and Focus Groups should be carried out and examined to ensure community needs are being met by the collections of the South Coast Cooperative Libraries.

Current Public Library trends also need to be allocated for.

4.19. Appendices

Appendices to this policy include:

Appendix one – Collection Profile

Appendix two – Supporting Links

Appendix three – Shoalhaven Libraries De-Selection Guidelines.

5. REVIEW

To be reviewed within one year of the election of a new Council.

6. APPLICATION OF ESD PRINCIPLES

Natural Capital - Continued recycling of books and selling de-selected items to members of the public.

APPENDIX ONE - COLLECTION PROFILE

Access to all holdings is available through the online library catalogue.

Print Collection

1. Reference	
Locations	All Branches, except the Mobile Library
Scope	Factual information on a wide range of topics. Specialist subject areas at some Branches.
Clientele	All users
Access	Not for loan unless through prior arrangement with the Information Access Librarian.
Formats	All formats
Related Collections	Non-fiction, Local Heritage/Family Heritage
Selection Criteria	Evaluation criteria: Purpose, Authority, Scope, Timeliness, Format (arrangement, indexing, organisation, consistency, ease of use), Cost
Deselection Criteria	Average life span : 5 years, 3 years for Legal & Health titles as per NSW State Library (NSWSL) recommendations. Specific NSWSL Collections deselected as per NSWSL guidelines. Items may be deselected if easily replaced by online resources. Internet resources/Databases assessed regularly to ensure access and relevancy
Replacement Criteria (If applicable)	–Replacement as updated editions become available, this may be in e-resource format or other formats as technologies allow.
Future Plans	Maintain the currency of the collection. Continue to identify and fill subject gaps. Assess the collection to include a variety of media types, including databases and Internet resources. Replacement of book format by e-resources

2. Local Heritage	
Locations	Primary collection at Nowra Library & Kiama Family History Centre Smaller collections are held at each of the Co-operative Libraries
Scope	Resources about the Local area and/or by Local residents.
Clientele	All users
Access	Not for loan
Formats	All formats
Related Collections	Adult non-fiction, Reference, On-line resources
Selection Criteria	Resources about the Local area and/or by Local residents.
Deselection Criteria	Preservation methods should be employed for primary source materials. Delicate/fragile materials should be copied or digitised if possible, and the original copy stored securely.

Replacement Criteria	Missing or damaged items are replaced if available.
Future Plans	To continue to source materials about the Local area to build a comprehensive Local Studies collection. To digitise fragile/rare copies to preserve local history To optimise the collection and include oral histories and sound recordings. Continue to build an image collection

3. Family History/ Genealogy	
Locations	Primary collection at Nowra Library & Kiama Family History Centre. Smaller collections are held at each of the Branch Libraries
Scope	Resources to assist family history researchers in genealogy studies
Clientele	All users
Access	Not for loan ; 48 hour loan periods
Formats	All formats
Related Collections	Adult non-fiction ; online resources
Selection Criteria	Resources to assist family history researchers in genealogy studies
Deselection Criteria	Minimal weeding
Replacement Criteria	Missing or damaged items are replaced if available
Future Plans	To continue to build the Genealogy collection and include oral histories and sound recordings. Investigate digital storage options. Investigate optimising access and preservation options. Expand on the library website for optimum access to Family History Resources.

4. Newspapers	
Locations	All Branches, except the Mobile Library
Scope	A selection of the major national, daily and weekly newspapers. All local newspapers
Clientele	All users
Access	Not for loan Local newspapers bound and microfilmed. Current bound newspapers are South Coast Register (SCR), Milton and Ulladulla Times (MUT) and The Shoalhaven and Nowra News (SNN).
Formats	All formats, including: Paper copy Online resources Microfilm Digital
Related Collections	Non-Fiction, Local Studies, online resources
Selection Criteria	A selection of the major national, daily and weekly newspapers. All local newspapers
Deselection Criteria	National, daily and weekly newspapers (not

	including local) retained for 4 weeks then recycled. The retention of newspapers at Branch Libraries varies at each location.
Replacement Criteria (if applicable)	N/A
Future Plans	Continue to index local newspapers. Greater use of online newspaper titles. Evaluate titles annually to meet community expectations. To digitise newspapers. Optimise access. Investigate alternate storage options.

5. Serials / Magazines	
Locations	All Branches have a selection of titles
Scope	Adult, young and junior magazines to support the non-fiction collection in areas of general interest. This includes but is not limited to magazines on: Popular interests Current affairs Australian subjects Reference, research, literary and Library Science serials Online resources
Clientele	All users
Access	Reference serial collection not for loan Other serial titles for loan Online lending available
Formats	All formats, including: Physical Online resources (subscriptions and back issues)
Related Collections	Non-Fiction / Reference / Local Studies
Selection Criteria	Each branch selects serial titles within their budget allocation. Popular mass market weeklies are not generally purchased, however, the e-magazine collection may hold titles of this genre. Currency and regularity Popular Interest / Demand Relevance - appropriateness to target group Suitability of the format Cost Focus on Australian content Existing subject coverage Reputation of the journal Value to the community and/or target group
Deselection Criteria	Lending copies of magazines are removed when damaged. The retention of serials at Branch Libraries varies at each location Where the subject matter does not date magazines may be kept for two years. Previous issues of magazines may be deselected after two years depending on publication.

	Research, Literary and Library Science and other selected journals are retained and moved to stack after two years
Replacement Criteria	Magazines are not replaced if damaged, lost or overdue. Subscriptions are continually reviewed.
Future Plans	To monitor the collection to ensure titles are relevant and meet community expectations Monitor collection closely to enable client preferences to be initiated Examine all research journals and use online if appropriate and within budget Monitor physical and downloadable magazines to avoid duplication.

6. Home Education Collection	
Location	Collections are held at Nowra, Ulladulla and Milton Libraries.
Scope	Junior Fiction and Junior Non-fiction
Clientele	Junior Home Schooling Community
Access	For loan
Format	Print Cards Workbooks
Related Collections	Junior Fiction Junior Non-Fiction
Selection Criteria	Based on school curriculum
Deselection Criteria	Outdated Damaged Level of currency
Replacement Criteria	Recommended titles are replaced as needed. As new titles become available.
Future Plans	Build collection in line with the NSW School curriculum. Continue to promote collection through Home Schooling Network.

7. Non-Fiction	
Locations	All Branches Youth non-fiction is not held on the Mobile
Scope	Non-fiction resources that meet community needs
Adult	Resources or access to resources for: Information/lifelong learning Recreation/lifestyle Tertiary/Open learning students
Young	Resources concerning recreation, lifestyle and issues that affect young people (13-20 years)
Junior	Resources or access to resources for information and recreation suited to children (0-12 years) Resources from recommended reading lists Home Education Collection

Clientele	
Adult	All users
Young	Young people (13-20 years)
Junior	Children from primary to early secondary level (0-12 years).
Access	For loan To ensure equity of access the library reserves the right to limit the number of titles which may be borrowed in a subject area.
Formats	All formats including e-books, e-audiobooks and electronic resources
Related Collections	
Adult/Youth	Adult non-fiction ; e-book ; e-audio ; physical audiobooks
Junior	Youth non-fiction ; e-book ; e-audio ; physical audiobooks
Selection Criteria	
Adult / Youth	Currency Popular Interest / Demand Relevance - appropriateness to collection and/or community Suitability of the format Cost Focus on Australian content Existing subject coverage Controversial subjects included, presenting both sides of an issue.
Junior	Preference is given to books with contents and index pages Titles are not excluded because of bias against an author or subject matter. It is the responsibility of parents or guardians, not library staff, to make a final decision as to what is suitable reading for their child.
Reasons for Non inclusion	Cost, format
Deselection Criteria	Outdated/inaccurate Usage Damaged material Older resources of value and classics considered for the stack collection
Adult	Average life: 3 years; 2 years for Medical, Legal & Travel guides
Young / Junior	Average life : 3 years
Replacement Criteria	Standard works and classics are replaced with new editions if available Missing or long overdue items may be replaced with similar up-to-date materials. Recognised non-fiction authors are retained or Replaced with newer editions or other titles on the same subject if available
Future Plans	To build the collections in line with the

	expressed interest and needs of the partner LGAs Target collections in each Branch towards subjects which are of interest to the Community
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8. Fiction	
Locations	All Branches
Scope	
Adult	Resources include popular, contemporary and classic novels to accommodate a wide range of reading interests Award winning novels Australian authors
Young	Resources include popular, contemporary and classic novels to accommodate a wide range of reading interests (13-16 years) Award winning novels Australian authors HSC Reading list titles
Junior	Resources include popular, contemporary and classic novels to accommodate a wide range of reading interests (0-12 years) Award winning novels Australian authors Recommended Reading list titles, e.g. Premier's Reading Challenge Junior Series Easy to Read and First Readers
Clientele	
Adult	All users / Adult patrons
Youth	Young people (13-20) High School Students
Junior	Children from primary to early secondary level (0-12 years).
Access	For loan Popular and best seller fiction purchased in multiple copies for allocation to branches To ensure equity of access the library may restrict the loan period of titles which have a high ratio of reserves
Formats	
Adult	All formats, including Paperback Hardback
Youth / Junior	All formats Paperback format is preferred e-book and e-audiobook
Related Collections	
Adult	Large Print ; e-book ; e-audio ; physical audiobooks
Youth	Adult fiction ; e-book ; e-audio ; physical audiobooks
Junior	Young Fiction : e-book ; e-audio ; physical

	audiobooks
Selection Criteria	Currency Popular Interest / Demand Suitability of the format Cost Recommendations by reviewers Literary merit (Award Winners) Appearance Standing orders for selected popular authors
Young / Junior	Criteria the same as for adult fiction Standing orders for selected popular authors and series Imaginative and original writing Titles are not excluded because of bias against an author or subject matter. It is the responsibility of parents or guardians, not library staff, to make a final decision as to what is suitable reading for their child.
Reasons for non-inclusion	Format, Cost, Age
Deselection Criteria	Outdated Usage Read out Damaged material Average life: 5 years
Adult	
Young / Junior	Average life: 4 years
Replacement Criteria	Missing or long overdue items are replaced if available. Retain Australian authors, classics, titles/authors with ongoing interest, prize winners. Titles considered to be standards are replaced if available
Adult	
Young / Junior	Recommended reading list titles are retained
Future Plans	To build the collections in line with the expressed interest and needs of the target groups

9. Large Print	
Locations	All Branches
Scope	Resources include popular, contemporary and classic novels to accommodate a wide range of reading interests Award winning novels Australian authors A selection of non-fiction titles The only distinction between material in this collection and the adult fiction collection is the size of the font. For this reason the collection largely mirrors the adult fiction in regard to collection development.
Clientele	All users Patrons with a visual impairment
Access	For loan
Formats	All formats, primarily print
Related Collections	Adult Fiction ; e-books
Selection Criteria	Currency

	<p>Popular Interest / Demand Suitability of the format Cost Recommendations by reviewers Literary merit (Award Winners) Appearance</p> <p>Standing Orders from Specialist suppliers for a selection of large print titles</p>
Reasons for non-inclusion	Cost, format, age
Deselection Criteria	<p>Average life span : 3 years</p> <p>Outdated Usage Read out Damaged material</p> <p>Read out items may be transferred for use by the Home Library Service</p> <p>De-selected items may be used to supplement the collections of the hospitals and aged care facilities in the community</p>
Replacement Criteria	Missing or long overdue items are replaced if still in demand, and available for purchase.
Future Plans	<p>To build the collection in line with the expressed interest and needs of the target group</p> <p>To include e-resources which support those with a visual impairment</p>

10. Graphic Novels	
Locations	All Branches (Varying Collection size)
Scope	Material with a high image content Aimed at young adult and junior readers
Clientele	Young adults; Junior readers
Access	For loan
Formats	All formats Comic book graphics with fiction/non-fiction storylines
Related Collections	Youth / Junior Collections
Selection Criteria	<p>Currency Popular Interest / Demand Suitability of the format / content Cost Language/Themes Quality of images Quality of the publication Titles should not be excluded because of bias against an author or subject matter. It is the responsibility of parents or guardians, not library staff, to make a final decision as to what is suitable reading for their child.</p>
Deselection Criteria	<p>Outdated Usage Read out Damaged material</p>
Replacement Criteria	Replace outdated, read out titles as needed
Future Plans	To monitor collection usage and demand. Investigate e-resources and databases in this

	format.
11. Picture Books (Easies)	
Locations	All Branches
Scope	<p>Provide resources suitable for non-readers and picture story books for parents to read to babies and pre-schoolers (0-5).</p> <p>Resources include popular, contemporary and classic picture books, life themes Award winning titles Australian authors Recommended Reading list titles Early reading materials Australian titles</p> <p>Illustrated resources that are more suitable for older children and adults are purchased and placed in other categories.</p> <p>Resources for story time</p>
Clientele	Parents and children – birth to early independent reading
Access	For loan
Formats	All formats, including Hardback Quality paperbacks Board books.
Related Collections	Junior Fiction ; Storybox database ; e-books ; e-audiobooks
Selection Criteria	<p>Three levels of picture books purchased – E1, E2, E3</p> <p>Currency Popular Interest / Demand Suitability of the format Cost Recommendations by reviewers Literary merit (Award Winners) Appearance</p> <p>Titles are not excluded because of bias against an author or subject area. It is the responsibility of parents or guardians, not library staff, to make a final decision as to what is suitable for their child</p>
Deselection Criteria	<p>Average life span : 3 years</p> <p>Outdated Usage Damaged</p>
Replacement Criteria	<p>Missing or long overdue items are replaced if still in demand, and available Prize winners, classics and popular stories will be retained and replaced if available</p>
Future Plans	To build the collection in line with the expressed interest and needs of the target group

12. Dyslexic Friendly Collection	
Location	Nowra and Ulladulla Libraries
Scope	Provide resources to those in the community diagnosed with Dyslexia
Clientele	Junior and Youth
Access	For loan
Format	Dyslexic font
Related Collections	Audiobooks, Online resources
Selection Criteria	Popular interests, award winning children's and youth stories
Deselection Criteria	Damaged Outdated Read out
Replacement Criteria	Replace with updated titles as they become available.
Future Plans	Continue to promote through school networks and community groups which may have an interest.

Non-Book Collection

1. Electronic Resources	
Locations	24/7 Digital Library available through the library catalogue and Shoalhaven Libraries App.
Scope	Provide electronic resources to library members both full and digital 24/7 through the library catalogue and Shoalhaven Libraries App Factual information on a wide range of topics. Specialised information. Recreational information
Clientele	All library members
Access	All databases can be accessed by users whilst in the library. Some databases can be accessed by users at home on their personal device
Formats	Various electronic databases for adults and children that include fiction, non-fiction, reference and Local Heritage resources, e-books, e-audiobook, e-magazines, newspapers and films
Related Collections	All other library collections
Selection Criteria	Information need or gap. Relevance to our library clientele. Currency of Information. Ease of use. Accessibility – in-house or remote access. Cost Continued Usage – usage figures assessed annually.
Deselection Criteria	No longer relevant Cost Poor support Poor usage Outdated
Replacement Criteria (if applicable)	Monitored on a regular basis and assessed annually before subscription renewal

Future Plans	<p>Monitor usage</p> <p>Investigate and trial other databases</p> <p>Continue to identify and subscribe to e-resources with specific relevance to community needs.</p> <p>Maintain currency of the collection.</p> <p>Continue to promote e-resources as an alternate means of information access</p>
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2. DVD's	
Locations	All Branches
Scope	<p>Includes but not limited to:</p> <p>Feature films and television shows</p> <p>Music and dance</p> <p>Documentaries</p> <p>Classic films</p> <p>Self help</p> <p>Australian titles</p> <p>Films on school reading lists</p> <p>Foreign</p>
Clientele	<p>All users</p> <p>Titles are not excluded because of bias against an author or subject matter. It is the responsibility of parents or guardians, not library staff, to make a final decision as to what is suitable for their child.</p>
Access	<p>For loan</p> <p>To ensure equity of access the library reserves the right to limit the number of titles borrowed</p> <p>Items with an restricted classification (eg M+) are not permitted to be borrowed by members under 18 years</p>
Formats	<p>DVDs</p> <p>Online resources</p>
Related Collections	Non-Fiction
Selection Criteria	<p>Standing Orders from Specialist suppliers for a selection of titles</p> <p>Currency</p> <p>Popular Interest / Demand</p> <p>Cost</p> <p>Merit (Award Winners)</p> <p>Focus on Australian content</p>
Deselection Criteria	<p>Outdated</p> <p>Usage</p> <p>Damaged</p> <p>Untraceable missing discs</p>
Reasons for Non-Inclusion	<p>Cost</p> <p>Incompatible with Australian standards</p>
Replacement Criteria	<p>Popular / In Demand titles</p> <p>Titles considered to be standards are replaced if available</p>
Future Plans	<p>To build the collection in line with the expressed interest and needs of the Community</p> <p>To include all media formats for film</p>

3. Audio-Books	
Locations	All Branches
Scope	This collection supports the fiction collections and provides members with access to fiction in an alternate format. Resources include popular, contemporary and classic novels to accommodate a wide range of reading interests Award winning novels Australian authors A selection of non-fiction titles
Young/Junior	Resources include popular, contemporary and classic novels to accommodate a wide range of reading interests (0-20 years) Award winning novels Australian authors Recommended Reading list titles Multi media kits including text
Clientele	All users
Young	Patrons with a visual impairment Young people (13-20 years) High School Students
Junior	Children from babies to early secondary level (0-12 years).
Access	For loan
Formats	CD's, playaways, e-audio, MP3
Related Collections	Fiction, Large Print, Non-Fiction, Junior, online resources
Selection Criteria	Standing Orders from Specialist suppliers for a selection of titles Abridged titles are generally not purchased Currency Popular Interest / Demand Cost Recommendations by reviewers Literary merit (Award Winners) Appearance Quality of sound recording (professional) Standing Orders from Specialist suppliers for a selection of titles Titles are not excluded because of bias against an author or subject matter. It is the responsibility of parents or guardians, not library staff, to make a final decision as to what is suitable for their child.
Young/Junior	
Reasons for Non-Inclusion	Cost, Abridged version
Deselection Criteria	Outdated Usage Damaged Untraceable missing discs
Replacement Criteria	Replacement media purchased if available Missing or long overdue items are replaced if still in demand, and available

	Titles considered to be standards are replaced if available
Future Plans	Continue to extend the collection and source best value to meet community expectations Source alternate media such as downloadable options Investigate online databases/resource options

4. Music	
Locations	All Branches
Scope	Music collection, primarily on CD, including but not limited to contemporary and past composers and performers from all musical genres
Youth	Music popular with young people
Junior	Music popular with children
Clientele	All users
Access	For loan
Formats	CD, DVD
Related Collections	Non-Fiction, DVD
Selection Criteria Adult / Young	Popular Interest / Demand Cost Recommendations by reviewers Merit (Award Winners) Quality of sound recording Standing Orders from Specialist suppliers for a selection of titles
Junior	Titles are not excluded because of bias against a composer or performer. It is the responsibility of parents or guardians, not library staff, to make a final decision as to what is suitable for their child.
Reasons for Non inclusion	Cost, Age, Format/Size
Deselection Criteria	Outdated Usage Damaged Untraceable missing discs
Replacement Criteria	Missing or long overdue items are replaced if still in demand, and available Titles considered to be standards are replaced if available
Future Plans	Ensure all branches have adequate stock of music formats to satisfy local demand Explore alternate media sources

APPENDIX TWO - SUPPORTING LINKS

Access to Information in New South Wales public libraries guidelines

<https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/accesstoinformation2007.pdf>

ALIA core values statement

<https://www.alia.org.au/about-alia/policies-standards-and-guidelines/alia-core-values-statement>

ALIA Statement on online content regulation

<https://www.alia.org.au/about-alia/policies-standards-and-guidelines/alia-online-content-regulation>

Internet Policy Guidelines for NSW Public Libraries

https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/internet_guidelines_2011.pdf

Libraries and information services and Indigenous peoples

<https://www.alia.org.au/about-alia/policies-standards-and-guidelines/libraries-and-information-services-and-indigenous-peoples>

Library and information services for people with a disability

<https://www.alia.org.au/about-alia/policies-standards-and-guidelines/library-and-information-services-people-disability>

**Living Learning Libraries: standards and guidelines for NSW public libraries
Statement on free access to**

https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/pol_living_learning_libraries_v_7.3_2020.pdf

Statement on free access to information

<https://www.alia.org.au/about-alia/policies-standards-and-guidelines/statement-free-access-information>

Statement on information literacy for all Australians

<https://www.alia.org.au/about-alia/policies-standards-and-guidelines/statement-information-literacy-all-australians>

Statement on public library services

<https://www.alia.org.au/about-alia/policies-standards-and-guidelines/statement-public-library-services>

UNESCO Public library manifesto

<https://www.ifla.org/publications/iflaunesco-public-library-manifesto-1994>

APPENDIX THREE - DE-SELECTION GUIDELINES

De-selection is a valuable and integral part of collection development and is used in conjunction with the Collection Development Policy. Collections must be maintained so that they are attractive and relevant to their Communities.

Old, damaged, out of date and underused materials should be discarded (de-selected).

These guidelines have been written to assist the staff in weeding (or de-selecting items) in the collection.

De-Selection is essential to:

- optimize space in the library
- reflect the changing needs of the community
- maintain reliability by having up-to-date collections
- remove the illusion of a well stocked library which rebuffs bids for improved budgets for purchasing new resources in all formats
- give the library a fresh, inviting appearance where clients can find up-to-date information

The rate at which resources become unusable or obsolete varies. Information can become obsolete or irrelevant due to:

- new developments and discoveries, eg Science, Technology, Social Sciences
- changes in tastes, interests and emphases within society, eg. once popular sports people, entertainers
- predictions on the course of world politics and events for a specific time period
- design (house/fashion) trends
- hard line attitudes to groups now accepted by society

Living, Learning Libraries Update (2020) recommends as a baseline standard that 50% of the collection should have been purchased in the last 5 years. This excludes Local Studies and Family History collections.

The following benchmarks can be used to assess stock for de-selection:

- outdated material (5 years +)
- outdated concepts
- older or outdated editions of the same title or subject (law, health, travel)
- damaged stock
- stock which has either not been loaned or loaned very little
- read out, ie location stamp shows that transferred to all Branches in the Shoalhaven
- duplicate copy no longer in demand

Items to be retained can be considered for Stack collections or items returned from Branches can replace existing copies, dependent on the condition.

Standard works and classics should not be discarded based on usage. They are basic to a public library collection, even if rarely loaned.

Disposal of De-Selected Items

Unwanted de-selected items are cancelled and the record deleted from the Library Management System as well as Libraries Australia (where applicable).

D-selected stock is sold to the public at various times through the year. Damaged items are recycled. Large print is distributed to local nursing homes and other aged care facilities as required.

De-Selection Guidelines for Library Classification Areas

Genre	Examples	De-Selection Guidelines	Comments
Reference			Average life : 3 years Considered for Reference Stack or another Branch if appropriate
	Bibliographies and encyclopaedias		Average life : 3 years Some topics may be relevant for up to 15 years, e.g. Art (encyclopaedias)
	Almanacs / Yearbooks	Superseded editions	Now mostly available online
	University / TAFE handbooks/calendars	Superseded editions	Now mostly available online
	Job Search handbooks	Superseded editions	Now mostly available online
Adult Non-Fiction		Outdated / inaccurate / damaged Memoirs and essays Subjects no longer popular Unused volumes of sets Multiple copies Superseded editions	
	Australian material	Careful evaluation required	
	Self published books	Unless local value	
	E-resources	Low usage statistics Cost Poor Support Lack of information Currency	

Guidelines for Specific Non-Fiction Classes

Non-Fiction Class	Examples	De-Selection Guidelines	Comments
Computer Science (001-006)		Maximum of 5 years	The Computer School
	Awareness of new programs	Older materials	
		Superseded editions	Not sent on to Branches
Religion and Philosophy (100-200)	Retain systems of philosophy		Check usage of this subject area
		Superseded editions	World Book Online

		of Historical and explanatory texts	
		Discard older : Theology Commentaries on the Bible Sectarian literature, Sermons Conduct of life	
		Older Self help psychology and guides to living	
Social Sciences (300s)			Average life : 5 years
	Law	2 years	Guidelines from LIAC
	Basic materials on customs and folklore		Retained – high usage, replace when needed
	Economics, investments, taxation	Need regular review	
	Historical works on economics, political science, education, transportation	Retained if high usage	Evaluate
	World politics and events for a specific time period which has passed	1900's 20 th Century	
Language (400's)		Superseded editions Damaged material	Check usage Mango Languages Database
Pure Sciences (500s)		Average 3-5 years	Retain classical works in this field
	Books with absolute information or theories	Outdated	
	Textbooks	Superseded works 3 years	
	HSC texts	2-3 years	Monitor curriculum changes
	Botany and natural history		Evaluate
	Astronomy	Dates rapidly	
Applied Science (600s)			
	Technology	3-5 years	
	Medical information	3 years unless personal journey	Science Reference Centre, Consumer Health Complete
	Inventions, radio, television	5 years	
	Business	3-5 years	Retain classical texts

	Business materials written for a specific time period which has passed	1990's 20 th century	
	Cookbooks, gardening, craft	Superseded editions Outdated Damaged	
Arts, Music, Hobbies (700s)			Retain Australian content
	Fine Arts	Consider de-selection carefully	Retain classics
	Music, engravings, fine illustrated books		Retain
	Interior design	Superseded editions Outdated concepts	Hobbies & Craft Reference Centre
	Coffee table books	Superseded editions Outdated concepts	
Literature (800s)			Retain unless superseded edition
	Literary history		
	Australiana – poets, dramatists and writers		
	Collected works		
	Academic reading lists		
	Poets and dramatists	No longer regarded in literary history No longer read	
	Minor Novelists	Low readership	

History (900s)			
	Historical works	Summaries; not authoritative	
	Travel	5 years	Retain classics
	Travel Guides	2-4 years	
	Literary Histories		Retain
	Local Studies Regional History		Do Not Deselect
	Contemporary writings of war	Damaged Superseded editions or subject matter	Retain classics
Geography (900s)		5 years Needs to be up to date to be relevant Superseded edition	Retain classics
Biographies (B/AAA-B/ZZZ)		Superseded editions Person no longer significant Self published authors – low readership	