# Statement on School Libraries and Information and Communication Technologies

*Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) and Australian School Library Association (ASLA)*

## Purpose

To provide direction for the development of policy, leadership and practice in relation to information and communication technologies (ICTs) in school libraries.

## ALIA objects addressed

- ❖ To promote and improve the free flow of information and ideas in the interest of all Australians and a thriving culture, economy and democracy.
- ❖ To promote and improve the services provided by all kinds of library and information agencies.
- ❖ To ensure the high standard of personnel engaged in information provision and foster their professional interests and aspirations.

## ASLA objectives addressed

- ❖ Establish, review and maintain national standards and guidelines for school library resource services.
- ❖ Promote an understanding of the aims, needs and educational significance of school library resource services and teacher librarianship.
- ❖ Develop, write and publish materials which will promote the development of school library resource services and teacher librarianship.

## Principle

Current and emerging ICTs are essential for effective information delivery in 21st century school communities. Teacher librarians ensure the development of policies that guide the school library in the storage, publication and dissemination of current and emerging formats. They embed information and digital literacy skills into the curriculum. Teacher librarians show leadership by developing expertise through ongoing training and professional development. As a result they are able to offer a range of ICT learning and teaching opportunities within their school communities.

## Statement

Effective information delivery in 21st century school communities requires access to existing and emerging technologies:

- ❖ several categories of existing and emerging ICTs have been identified as providing a framework for thinking about innovation. These are:
  - o Consumer technologies
  - o Digital strategies
  - o Enabling technologies
  - o Internet technologies
  - o Learning technologies

- o Social media technologies
- o Visualization technologies

Value is added by:
- ❖ guiding policy development, in accordance with local practice, that provides direction for:
  - o acquisition
  - o storage
  - o publication
  - o dissemination
- ❖ embedding information literacy and digital literacy skills in the curriculum so that:
  - o students develop a range of sophisticated skills in relation to ICT
  - o students understand that these skills are transferable
  - o students become responsible and ethical users of information
  - o students can experience success in learning
- ❖ providing leadership within the school community, through:
  - o identifying and advocating for relevant emerging technologies
  - o modelling and reinforcing the ethical use of information across the curriculum
  - o participating in professional networks
  - o undertaking ongoing training
  - o offering a range of learning and teaching experiences for staff and students

## Related documents

International Federation of Library Associations, 2015. *IFLA School library guidelines*, 2$^{nd}$ ed, IFLA, The Hague.

Johnson, L., Adams Becker, S., Estrada, V., and Freeman, A. 2015, *NMC Horizon report: 2015 library edition*, The New Media Consortium, Austin, Texas.

Australian Library and Information Association, 2014, *ALIA AITSL Standards for teacher librarian practice*, Australian Library and Information Association, Canberra.

Australian School Library Association, 2014 *Evidence guide for teacher librarians in the highly accomplished career stage*, Australian School Library Association, Canberra, ACT.

Australian School Library Association, 2014, *Evidence guide for teacher librarians in the proficient stage*, Australian School Library Association, Canberra, ACT.

*Statement on information literacy*

*Statement on library and information services in schools*

*Statement on teacher librarians in Australia*


Adopted February 2009
Replaced: Statement on electronic information literacy, 1994
Amended: July 2016