

Riccarton Primary School: Consultation, 9 October 2003

Teachers

Ideas for new Riccarton Library

Building - outside

- Main South Road traffic needs to be addressed – lights, tunnel
- Outdoor area – veranda
- Landscaped
- Interesting shape, cf Art Gallery
- Ball sports
- Tiles from local schools

Building – inside

- Clear distinctions between spaces – young children, older children, adults
- Easy access for parents, i.e not having to use stairs
- Mezzanines good for study
- Homework zones – develop connection between school homework zone and library's zone
- Display areas for school work
- Two entrances: public - main road; school - back of library
- Safe area for pre-schoolers, eg. outside gate (Many large families in the area)
- Coffee shop/café – some kid friendly food like at Pioneer
- Café not placed in middle of the library but still with good view so parents can keep eye on their children
- Good coffee
- Big murals
- Couch, comfy chairs
- One glass wall
- Soundproofing between rooms
- Defined spaces but feeling of openness

People

- Interaction between high school students and younger children – eg. drama class storytelling for younger customers
- Interaction between school staff and library staff re. Curriculum
- Building relationship between school and children's library

Furniture and equipment

- Soothing fish tanks
- Somewhere for bags, jackets, shoes
- Cheap, accessible photocopying (10c)

Stock

- Book/tape sets
- Curriculum related posters/CDs
- Traditional stories (eg. Grimm's fairytales) on video

- Lots of different magazine, esp. for boys
- Games and game instructions
- Puzzles for smaller children

Computers

- Internet access
- Websites
- Training room

Services

- Fax across for books
- Booking system for school use
- Lessons by library staff in how to use library
- Story-times presented by different people
- Consideration of special needs and cultural groups
- Welcome in various languages – flags, murals

General comments

Things we like about libraries now

- Coffee shop
- Couches by window (New Brighton)
- Selection of less popular music
- Good non-fiction videos
- Knowledgeable staff who are nice to children
- Open spaces/feeling of space
- Posters to borrow

Things we don't like about libraries now

- Parking
- Charges

Things libraries could do better

- Allow non Christchurch schools to have free access to curriculum materials
- Stronger relationship between National Library and Public Library
- Access to more resources
- Reserve fee waived for teachers
- Loan period extended for teachers