

L.4(h 1): Services to children and young people

Answer **Question 1 (Section A)** and **TWO** questions from **Section B**.

SECTION A

1. Examine the strategic activities which librarians need to undertake to ensure that library services are relevant to children and young people today. Illustrate with reference to the needs of one defined client group familiar to you within the overall sector of library provision for children and young people.

SECTION B

2. Philip Pullman, the first children's author to win the Whitbread Book of the Year Award, has observed that the 'profound questions [of life], very deeply important questions, are being dealt with not in the books adults read, but in the books children read'. Is this a realistic assertion in relation to children's reading preferences? Discuss, with reference to the implications for stock selection for children and young people.
3. Outline what you see as being key areas of government policy affecting public library services for children and young people today. Discuss how librarians may respond effectively to these, providing examples to support your argument.
4. Today's educational library services (sometimes referred to as 'SLS') operate within a highly competitive business environment. Examine the role that such services have in supporting the education of children and young people. Evaluate the extent to which their commercialization may be beneficial or disadvantageous in fulfilling this role.
5. It has been argued that at some point in their youth, nearly 50% of children and young people may experience some form of special need. Explain how you would develop a library resource policy capable of supporting such children and suggest examples of resources appropriate to a variety of special needs. Relate your answer to either a school library or a public library context.
6. The development of children's information skills is recognized as crucial within the school library context, but to what extent is it also part of the public library's role? Discuss with reference to the activities of the public children's librarian in supporting children and young people today.
7. School libraries may be said to have a captive market. How far, then, is it necessary for school librarians to engage in promotional activities? Discuss, supporting your analysis with examples. Suggest ways that school librarians might demonstrate the impact of such activities.

END OF PAPER