
It is commonly believed that joint-use libraries are established to save money. Of course this is not so - a quality library service comes at a cost, however it is managed. But a joint-use library may provide an opportunity for economies of scale which can deliver the best service for all users, in addition to providing opportunities for mutual promotion and liaison and a community showcase for local achievements.

Effective partnerships: creating and managing dual use libraries for schools and communities is a slim book which provides the necessary guidelines for establishing a joint-use library within a school to serve the community. The key principle is that the proposal must be carefully planned in advance to provide advantages equally to the school and the community. Policies must be monitored in advance and be actively supported by both the school principal and the head of library services. A service level agreement with clear aims and objectives for the library will enable staff to work effectively.

Planning for the library's resources must ensure that the demands of the school curriculum are met, while at the same time catering for adult readers. Operational plans should either allow time for class activities or provide a separate teaching area within the library, as teachers may be initially reluctant to teach in 'public'. While safety and security of students must be ensured, care must be taken that the library is not seen simply as a gathering place for students awaiting transport home.

The authors comprehensively examine budgets, stock circulation, staff training, managing volunteers and community information literacy programmes. The book then includes case studies from two libraries - one of which has had a successful dual-use library for 40 years, while the Library and Adult Learning Centre of the other was established in 2004. The book concludes with the School Library Association's position statement on dual-use libraries. This is very similar to the ALIA statement on joint-use libraries, adopted in 1986 and amended in 2002. The questionnaire used by the authors when consulting dual-use libraries for preparation of this book is added as an appendix.

Despite its small size and lack of an index, this book succeeds in presenting all the information needed to propose and set up an effective joint-use library in a school. The further reading list includes direction to a website offering a
relevant database and an issue of *Library Trends* which featured dual-use libraries.

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