



My name is Miss Stocker, I am the Head of Library Services and I work across the boys' and girls' senior schools, with a team of three part-time librarians. I have an undergraduate degree in Theology from the University of St Andrews and a Masters in Librarianship from the University of Sheffield. My first professional post was at Nazarene Theological College in Manchester, where I was their Librarian and Learning Support Co-Ordinator for just over 6 years. As part of my role at NTC, I was part of an international project to implement a library management system at other Nazarene institutions. I was fortunate enough to visit eSwatini (Swaziland), Costa Rica and the USA as part of a team which delivered training to librarians from all over the world. Email: h.stocker@merchanttaylor.com



My name is Miss Viapiana, I come from Calabria, Southern Italy. I got my Bachelor's degree in Languages for Tourism in 2016, and my Master's in Library and Archival Sciences in 2018. I interned for a month at Florence music conservatory, covering the position of Archivist/Librarian: I focused my work on a private archive, and the resulting inventory has recently been published. For a month I also covered the position of student librarian at the University of Florence; my main duties there were cataloguing and reorganising the collection. In May 2019, I decided to move to England and, after a few months working in hospitality, I was offered the position of Librarian at Merchant Taylors'. I am really happy with the opportunity that this role has given to me and I enjoy providing a excellent service for both students and teachers. Email: m.viapiana@merchanttaylor.com

Introducing the Library Team at Merchant Taylors'



Hello, my name is Miss Cobham and I joined the library team at Merchant Taylors' in November 2019. I have come from a university background and have spent recent years working in large academic libraries. During my time at the University of Liverpool I was out on the library floor as a roving library assistant answering a variety of queries. This involved helping students access online journals along with shelf checks and catalogue searches. As a help and support adviser at Edge Hill University I again helped students access a variety of resources within the library and online. I love literature and am a firm believer in the benefits of reading for pleasure. Email: n.cobham@merchanttaylor.com



Hello, my name is Miss Hobbs and I joined the library team in November 2020. I graduated in summer 2020 with a degree in Classics and French. I love reading and I'm particularly interested in foreign literature. My recent experience as a student at university has given me a good understanding of how to use the many resources academic libraries have to offer most effectively so please feel free to ask me any questions!
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Merchant Taylors' Girls School

There are two library spaces at the girls' school and they are situated in the oldest part of the school.

The Lower Library houses the fiction collection, along with revision guides, books on study skills and a wide variety of careers. All pupils are encouraged to borrow books from the library and they are able to use the study space for homework or revision. A librarian is always on hand to provide assistance.

The Upper Library houses the non-fiction collection and it is arranged according to the Dewy Decimal system. The study space is reserved for pupils in the 6th form.



The Libraries at Merchant Taylors' School

Merchant Taylors' Boys' School

The boys' library has been its current location since the 1960s and the building of the Williams Hall.

It houses a fiction and non-fiction collection which aims to both support the curriculum and encourage pupils to read for pleasure.

All pupils are encouraged to borrow books from the library and they are able to use the study space for homework or revision. Pupils in the 6th form can use the library for private study during the day. A librarian is always on hand to provide assistance.



Online Resources Provided by the Library

Over the last year, we have made a substantial investment in the online resources provided by the library. We have selected resources which support the curriculum and they are particularly valuable for pupils in the 6th form, many of whom will be completing their Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). The following resources are accessible at school and from home, via our pages on Firefly.



JSTOR – a specially created package of over 2,700 archival journals and four primary source collections covering the arts, sciences and business. This database is particularly valuable for pupils completing coursework or their EPQ. It also prepares pupils to be able to use the type of online resources they will be using at University.



Newsbank is an online database of newspapers from all over the world. The collection includes over 200 full colour newspapers, including titles such as The Daily Telegraph and the Guardian. The intuitive resource supports pupils and staff to find information on a wide range of topics.



The Hodder GCSE and A-Level magazine archive includes topical articles, cutting-edge research and brand-new case studies which deepen pupil's subject knowledge and help them to develop independent learning skills. The revision support and expert exam advice will support them to perform in school assessments and the formal exams. We also subscribe to E-Magazine, which is an A-Level magazine for those studying English Language and English Literature.



Issues Online and Complete Issues are two separate resources which provide articles and statistics on contemporary issues such as the environment, well-being and education.

Highlights of the Last Academic Year

Whilst the last year has certainly been a bit different, the library service has continued to develop. Some highlights from this past year include:



Collaborating with the English departments in both schools to take part in the Bookbuzz project, which is a Book Trust initiative. Every pupil in years 7 and 8 was able to select a book from a list of titles and it was theirs to keep. The feedback from teachers was really positive and some pupils also took part in a book review competition, where they reviewed the book they had read.



This year the National Reading Champions Quiz (formally the Kids Lit Quiz) was held online and three teams from across the two schools took part. We took part in the Merseyside heat in May and whilst we didn't win, it was a really enjoyable experience for the library staff and pupils.



At Easter, we transitioned to a new Library Management System called Oliver 5. The new system brings an improved user experience for the library staff, teachers and pupils. The attractive and intuitive system, will enable users to search for both physical and a number of online resources in one place.



**Merchant Taylors'
School**

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Library Services at Merchant Taylors' Schools