



This letter will tell you about the Summer Reading Challenge and explain how your child and school are taking part this year.

### **What is the Summer Reading Challenge?**

The Summer Reading Challenge is a challenge for children to read six library books (or more) over the holidays. It runs from 4 July until 17 September in all Manchester Libraries (although your child can join NOW). It is a great opportunity to share and talk about books as a family and to celebrate your child's reading achievements. Joining a Challenge is a great way to keep motivated too.

### **By getting involved in the Summer Reading Challenge, your child is:**

- Improving their literacy. We know that reading for fun improves literacy
- Supporting their studies. Reading for pleasure is one of the most important factors in children's academic success
- Improving their wellbeing; reading for pleasures improves your mood
- Learning to understand others and their point of view.
- Having a great time! Joining thousands of other children across the country, reading books, sharing their thoughts, and taking part in some great activities.

### **Your school is part of our new approach this year**

Your school has agreed to work with Manchester Libraries to encourage every pupil in school to read this summer. As part of this, your child will receive the following in school:

- Summer Reading Challenge resources, including a Collector Poster and stickers
- A library card to use at any Manchester Library

With your school's agreement, your child has already been joined to the Summer Reading Challenge and is now a member of the library. The library card is ready to use - you do not need to provide any additional information or proof of ID when you visit the library. It is free to borrow books and there are no charges if you return books late.

### **What happens next?**

You can visit a Manchester Library now and start to borrow books – **you don't need to wait until 4 July**. Your child's details are already on the system. When the new term starts in September, we will let school know how many library books your child has read. Medals and

certificates will be awarded in the library to children who complete the Challenge by reading six books or more.

### **What if my child is already a library member?**

If your child already had a library card, they will now have two. No information has been deleted from the system. When you visit the library, you can ask the library staff to amend the details if you prefer your child to only have one card. The new card looks different so that staff can see at a glance that your child has been joined to the Challenge via school, but you can use whichever card you prefer.

### **How do I find my local library?**

Please check on the website to find your local library and opening times:

[manchester.gov.uk/libraries](http://manchester.gov.uk/libraries)

It's free for adults to join the library too, so why not join up too when you're there or join online? And there are no fines on adult library books either!

### **What if I don't want my child to be part of this?**

The Summer Reading Challenge is recognised as a means to support reading and learning, which after two years of disruption due to Covid, is particularly important. This is why your school has agreed to join your child to the Challenge automatically. In order to join your child to the scheme, we now hold some of your child's personal data on the Library Management System. This includes: Name, Address, School and Date of Birth.

You have the right to opt-out of Library membership (and therefore the Summer Reading Challenge). To do so, please contact your local library or email [libraries@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:libraries@manchester.gov.uk). We will then remove your child from the scheme and delete your child's information completely from the library management system.

### **How do I find out more about the Summer Reading Challenge?**

Please look at our website for more details –

[www.manchester.gov.uk/summerreadingchallenge](http://www.manchester.gov.uk/summerreadingchallenge) or see [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/manchesterlibraries) @manchesterlibraries. More information will be added over the next few weeks.

**Activities** - Libraries will once again be offering a number of free activities during the school holidays. To find out more about these and other activities for children, check out [LoadstoDo](#)

**Prizes and competitions** – When your child completes the Challenge (by reading 6+ books), they will be entered into a prize draw to win vouchers and books. There is also a book review competition to win a Kindle Fire and book bundles.

If you have any further questions, please contact your local library or email [libraries@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:libraries@manchester.gov.uk). If you want to know more about how Manchester City Council uses personal information go to the website - [Service-specific privacy statements - Libraries | Manchester City Council](#)