

CHILDREN'S OFFER FROM MANCHESTER LIBRARIES - January 2021

Hello Briscoe Lane Academy Parents and Carers

We know that, with the present school closures, life is difficult for home-learning children of all ages and their families. We just wanted to remind you that, with your Manchester Libraries membership, you and your children can still make the most of reading, learning and entertainment. As well as helping to maintain your children's reading levels during school closures, reading and enjoying books together can be a wonderful escape into another world for them – it really is the best time for everyone to switch into reading to escape and relax – taking just ten minutes a day to enjoy a bit of me-time is great for everyone's mental health. Reading together on the sofa, in mum's bed, on the floor – complete with cuddles, hot chocolate, biscuits or a treat, silly voices and dressing up clothes – can be a bit of really lovely quality time as a family, relieving stress, making memories and feeding their imaginations – children always remember those cosy times.

First of all, sign your child and yourself up for a Library card each! This opens up a whole world of goodies, online and offline. It's free to get a Library card and free to use the Library. Most of our Libraries are open at the moment in a Covid-safe way, but we have moved a lot of our activities online such as StoryTimes and craft sessions so please go to our Facebook page:

<https://m.facebook.com/manchesterlibraries> for the full range of activities for children and families.

JOINING THE LIBRARY

Go to <https://www.manchester.gov.uk/libraries> and follow the instructions.

The screenshot shows the Manchester Libraries website. The left sidebar has a 'Libraries' section with a book icon. The main content area is titled 'Join, look for, reserve or renew' and includes a 'Log in or become a member of the library for free' section. Below this, there are links for 'Renew an item online or call 0161 234 5007', 'Search for or reserve an item', 'Download an e-book, digital audio book or e-magazine', and 'Check your library account'. The right sidebar shows the 'Register online' form. The form has two main sections: 'Personal details' and 'Login details'. The 'Personal details' section includes fields for Title, Surname, First name, Date of birth, Gender, and Spoken languages. The 'Login details' section includes fields for Nearest branch, PIN, and Confirm PIN. Below these are 'Address' and 'Contact details' sections. The 'Address' section has fields for Address line 1, Address line 2, and Address line 3. The 'Contact details' section has a field for Home phone. A note at the bottom of the form states: 'Note: We highly recommend that you provide your email address and contact number so the library can contact you.' The form also includes a 'Continue' button at the bottom right.

This is best done by an adult for their child and you will get a UNREGxxxxx Library membership number and a PIN number for your child (usually their birthday DDMM) which you can change if you wish. With this you can access all the Library services online. If you come to the Library, we can give you a Library card (adults will need to bring proof of name and address, children don't need ID) - please check our opening times for your library here:

<https://www.manchester.gov.uk/directory/14/libraries>

Newton Heath Library

Old Church Street, Newton Heath, M40 2JB

Telephone 0161 234 4474

Opening Hours: Tues 11am-3pm, Thurs 11am-3pm & Saturdays 11am – 3pm

Please note, during lockdown, we are only open for essential use including pre-booked computer access, printing and scanning as well as Click and Collect Borrowing. Call us on 0161 234 4474 if you would like to book a computer or choose some books to borrow. Following lockdown, browsing for books will be restored.

Your child's Library Card allows them to borrow up to 8 children's books plus 6 E-Books and 6 Audio Books. Your child can borrow books or up to 3 weeks, and renew for a further 3 weeks if required.

We have books to choose for all ages from babies to grownups – a Child's card allows them to borrow from the Junior Library. Teens may only borrow Young Adult books if they are 13 or over. From 16 years, young people can have an Adult library card.

OVERDUE BOOKS - There are no fines for children's overdue books and it is easy to renew books online or by calling the Library. If your child or yourself are unable to use your Library cards due to fines or lost books, please don't be afraid to call and talk to us – we do understand books sometimes get lost and our main priority is to get children (and grown-ups) reading!

CLICK and COLLECT

Parents and children can look for favourite authors or titles using the Library Catalogue:

<http://manchester.spydus.co.uk>

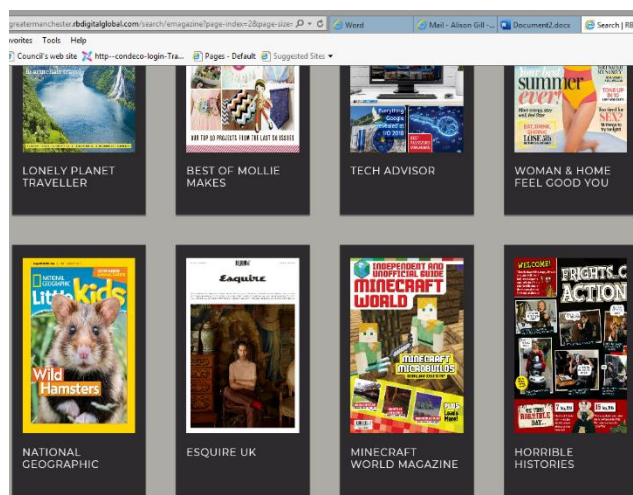
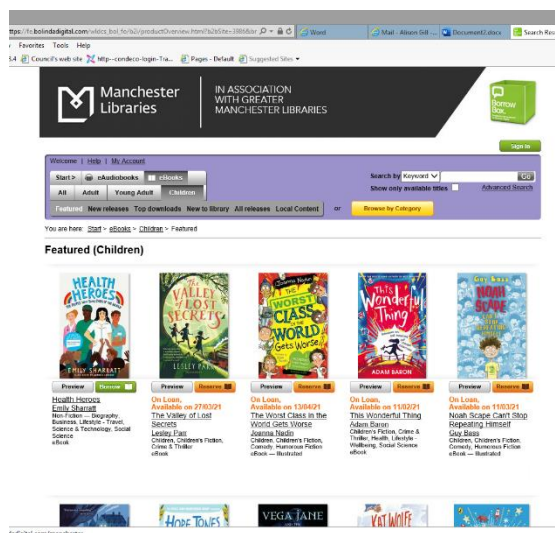
Then click on Reserve and your books will be delivered to your specified local library. You will receive an email alerting you when they are ready to collect. You can also simply phone or call in to your local library, and tell us what authors/genres/titles you would like – or opt for a staff selection, and we can have these ready at the door of your local library for you to inspect and borrow if you wish. Unfortunately at during the current restrictions we are unable to offer browsing to customers.

BORROWING BOOKS and MAGAZINES ONLINE



Access to Borrowbox, our free online Library, is easy for children and adults – simply follow the instructions on our webpage or sign in to the link <https://fe.bolindadigital.com> with your Library number (UNREGxxxxx or D999010xxxxxx and PIN). The mobile app is really easy to use – just look for Borrowbox in your app store. We have loads of top titles and authors. You can choose up to 6 E-books and 6 Audio books to download and read or listen on your device (PC, laptop, mobile, iPad, Kindle etc). Best of all, there's no need to worry about returning your online reads on time – they return themselves after 3 weeks unless you renew them.

Audio Books are a great way of reading without kids knowing they're doing it – ideal for long car journeys, not-so-confident readers or escaping the rest of the family for a while! E-Books on a Kindle or iPad are great for children with developmental differences – options to change fonts, contrasts, read aloud speed can be helpful.



Another great free offer is RB Digital our free magazines resource – this is simple to set up an account with your Library Membership number. This has around 100 best selling magazines – current and back issues too. There are some top quality titles for children including:

Storytime, Horrible Histories, Pokemon Go, Minecraft World, Raspberry Pi for Kids, National Geographic for Kids and for Little Kids, RSPB Birdwatching, Mental Floss, Games Master, Match of the Day, BBC Wildlife, Easy Cook

Signing up and searching/downloading does need parental supervision as there isn't a Children's Section but it has some great titles and visually is best downloaded to a bigger screen eg laptop, iPad or similar device.

Keeping children entertained at home:

Please check out our Facebook Page for lots of educational and fun activities to enjoy at home:

<https://m.facebook.com/manchesterlibraries>

There's Story Time every Tuesday morning at 11am with a different story every week for suitable for babies up to children aged 7years and parents or carers.

STEM Saturdays at 11am with a different Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths activity to create at home.

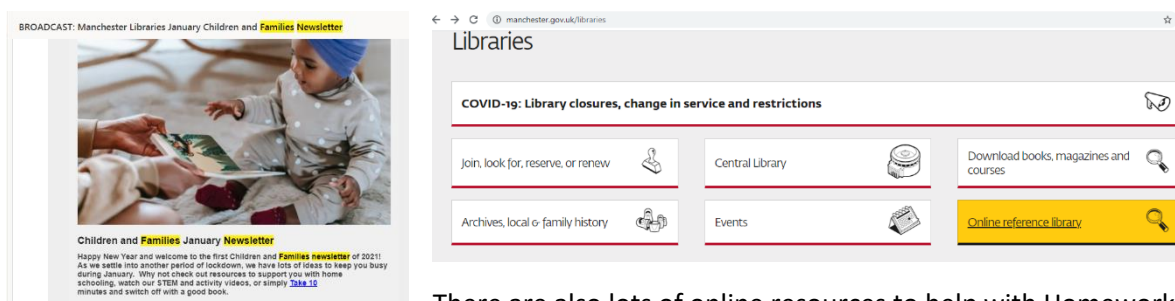
LEGO Saturday sees a new themed LEGO build online each week at 2pm – we love to see children's creations so please send us your snaps of your LEGO builds too!

Coming up in February Half Term we have a wonderful city-wide celebration of all the wonderful languages we speak in Mancunia – around 200 languages are spoken here! To help us learn a little more about each other and the languages we speak at home with our families, we have joined with Manchester City of Literature to celebrate UNESCO International Mother Language Day on Saturday 20 February from 10am for a full day of multilingual games, stories, activities, music, singing, poetry, dance

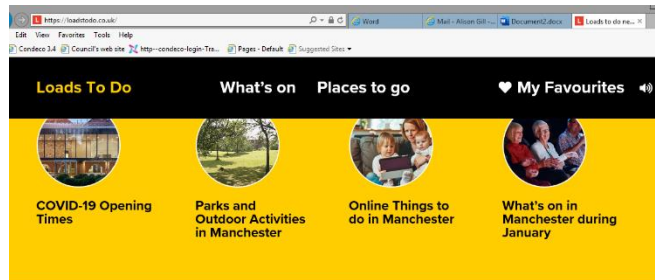
and much more. Join us on Facebook/[manchesterlibraries](https://www.facebook.com/manchesterlibraries) and join in the fun – it's absolutely free and we guarantee you will love what we've got lined up.

February Half Term will also mean that families can pick up free Craft bags to keep the kids entertained during the Half Term holidays – from Sat 13 February you can pick up a free pack for your child from your local library in North Manchester. They're filled with fun activities, quizzes and goodies for children of all ages, plus a free book to keep. Limited supplies so first come, first served.

Our monthly Children and Family Newsletter has lots of great activities for kids and parents to get into – join our online reading club for juniors, Reading Rascals, catch up with authors like Nick Sharratt and follow their activities, and lots, lots more. Sign up with your email for this via www.manchester.gov.uk/libraries type in E-bulletins in the search bar and follow Library E-Bulletins – Library Updates for Children and Families. This is a great place to make sure you don't miss a thing for you and your tribe.



There are also lots of online resources to help with Homework – including free access to Encyclopaedia Britannica Junior and Britannica Student (12-18) plus Oxford Dictionaries Pro, national and international news sources for research and homework, arts, culture, music streaming and lots more. Children will need help from parents navigating and signing up to these sources but they are all free to use as part of your Manchester Libraries membership.



What's On



Loads To Do in Manchester

<https://loadstodo.co.uk/> is a specially designed website for everyone to find out what's going on for things to do in Manchester – it's great for online events, parks and open spaces, sports and leisure activities and lots more! You can see month by month, area by area, type of activity, how to book on, fees and any special information. It's also great for local suggestions and recommendations of things to do and places to go that you or your family may not be familiar with

Check out our Library Blog at

<https://manlibraries.blog/> for news, information and lots of great online Library content too.