

Date: 1 October 2022
Reference: My Library Card

Dear Parent / Carer,

Encouraging children to read for pleasure is a key part of their school journey and research shows that reading for pleasure plays a significant role in improving children's life chances and opportunities. We are also aware of the negative impact the Covid-19 lockdowns have had on many children's literacy, learning and wellbeing.

To support all children in South Gloucestershire to develop a love of reading and have free access to books, South Gloucestershire Libraries are working with all primary schools in South Gloucestershire over the next 4 years to give every primary school aged child a library card. Each year, children in Reception and Year 6 classes will be automatically registered with the library service and given a library card. To meet the immediate needs of younger children, this year children in Year 1 will also be included.

It is free to join the library and borrow books and children do not pay any charges on overdue, damaged or lost books.

In November your child will be registered to use the library and will be given a library card at school for them to take home without you needing to do anything. If your child already has a library card, either keep hold of it and continue to enjoy using it or hand it in when you next visit the library, the choice is yours.

We take our use of data very seriously and have carried out a full data protection assessment of this project, if you wish to see the Privacy Impact Assessment and the Legitimate Interest Assessment, please go to www.southglos.gov.uk/mylibrarycard. The data (your child's name, address, age, school and gender) will only be shared within the Library Service. Only your child's name and school will be shared with the company we are using to print the cards.

If you do NOT want your child to have a library card, please email libraries@southglos.gov.uk phone 01454 868006 or visit any South Gloucestershire Library and let a staff member know **by 21 October**.

If you want to know more about libraries and the services available or have any questions, please visit any South Gloucestershire Library, contact us on 01454 868006 or visit www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries.

Thank you for your support

Yours faithfully,

South Gloucestershire Libraries