

SECTION 12

**THE RESEARCH HUB**

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## 12.1 ISL Qatar Research Hub

The ISL Qatar Research Hub is a shared space serving EC1 to Grade 12 for reading, research, and study.

## 12.2 Opening Hours

The Research Hub is open during normal school hours from Sunday to Thursday. Parents are welcome to become patrons of the library, and to borrow books to read to or with their children, or for their own interest. Except on Tuesdays, the library is supervised until 3:30pm for responsible private study. This is a privilege, and students are expected to show appropriate standards of behaviour.

## 12.3 Resources

**Research and Inquiry:** The Research Hub has a vast collection of print resources and iPads and offers access to online databases and encyclopaedias that can be accessed from home as well as at school. We also encourage parents to register as patrons of the Qatar National Library so that their children have access to the vast collection of physical and online resources on offer to all citizens and residents of Qatar. The school librarians help with using these and other online resources and tools for accessing and ethically using and sharing information.

**Reading for pleasure:** the library has a vast collection of fiction and general-interest non-fiction resources, and we encourage students to read for pleasure, curiosity, and personal interest, becoming lifelong readers, as well as lifelong learners.

**World Languages:** The library holds a vast collection of books in different languages, providing reading material in some students' mother tongue languages, or additional languages.

**Professional Reading:** The Research Hub has a significant collection of teacher reference and parent support materials to support adults studying, or for those interested in developing an understanding of child development.

## 12.4 Borrowing Policies

**Early Years and Primary Grades:** All EY and primary classes have a library period each week to choose books and read stories, and to enjoy listening to the teacher reading to them. Some instructional activities related to information literacy skills as well may also occur in this timeframe. Students in EC1 borrow books and keep them in their classroom for usage throughout the week. All other grades have the books for a week to read and enjoy at home and/or school. The loan period is 1 week, but books may be returned at any time during that period or renewed if they are needed for longer periods.

**Middle and High School Grades:** The middle and high school has a flexible borrowing policy, trying to ensure that students have the resources they need for research and/or for pleasure reading. The upper limit is generally 7 items, but most students find that 2 items at a time are sufficient. The loan period is 2 weeks, but books may be returned at any time during that period or renewed if

they are needed for longer periods. Students are strongly encouraged to take responsibility for their borrowing and to return or renew their books at the stipulated due date. There are no regularly scheduled library times, and students are responsible for finding time to visit the library.

### **12.5 Lost and Damaged books**

The library staff will send a letter home indicating a fee of QAR 200 to be paid for any material(s) lost, destroyed, or so damaged as to make the item unfit for future use. The fee considers the cost of sourcing the book in UK or US, shipping processing and covering. Parents also have the option of replacing the book themselves as the book will then arrive unprocessed, and it is likely that it will not be in library format. The fee will be paid to the library staff who will issue a receipt and send the money to the Finance Department.