

Ford City Public Library

Collection Development and Allocations of Funds

The purpose of the Collection Development Policy is to guide the library and inform the public of the principles that govern the selection of materials.

Knowledge of the community is of vital importance in the responsible selection of library materials. The area served by the Ford City Public Library encompasses a diverse population including children, students, the business community, the elderly, and the general population. The educational, cultural and vocational backgrounds, as well as the interests, problems and needs of the residents must be considered when building and maintaining a balanced collection.

The Ford City Public Library endeavors to provide for informational and recreational needs, to supplement formal and informal study, to support community activities, to increase knowledge of community and world affairs, and to reflect a variety of opinions. It is recognized that some members of the community have specialized needs that cannot be met locally. Interlibrary loan and reference services are provided to assist these individuals.

Freedom of speech and freedom of the press are rights of our heritage, guaranteed by the Constitution and defended by our legal system. Since a public library serves and is supported by many and varied groups and individuals, it must respect these differences by providing a varied and balanced collection of topics and beliefs. Inclusion of materials on particular views does not constitute endorsement by the library. The Ford City Public Library endorses the Library Bill of Rights and the Freedom to Read Statement published by the American Library Association.

The Library Director, in collaboration with the Board of Trustees, is responsible for determining how funds will be allocated within the materials budget. The materials budget is divided among several collection areas for all ages. The library has collections organized around the following categories: Fiction, Christian, Mystery, Children's Board Books, Children's Level Readers, Picture Books, Chapter Books, Non-Fiction, Young Adult, Graphic Novels, and DVDs.