

POYNTON LIBRARY

**YEAR END REPORT
APRIL 2025 - MARCH 2026**





POYNTON LIBRARY

WHAT WE DO

Poynton Library is at the heart of the community and plays a vital role in the day to day lives of many local residents. The library is a welcoming, friendly and a safe space that brings people together to support their health and wellbeing and community cohesion. The library champions literacy and lifelong learning through a diverse range of activities and events. We remain committed to promoting both inclusion and diversity through the provision of a wide range of services.

CORE OFFER

- A wide range of books and digital resources for all ages available to borrow or download at no cost.
- Reputable sources of information and help to navigate these from trained staff able to signpost to other sources of help and advice if required
- A request service for items not available locally
- Free Wi-Fi
- Access to PCs and printing facilities
- A range of activities and events promoting reading, culture and creativity, supporting health and wellbeing.

With the generous support of Poynton Town Council we are able to continue to provide this wide breadth of services on a Wednesday morning. In addition, thanks to this funding, every child in Poynton had access to the library during every weekday over the summer holidays. . These services are underpinned by the universal offers established by Libraries Connected in partnership with Arts Council England and the Reading Agency, demonstrating the power of public libraries to enable individuals and communities.



CORE OFFER

HEALTH AND WELLBEING – HEALTHIER, HAPPIER, CONNECTED

At the heart of many activities in libraries is the engagement with people, addressing issues like loneliness, bereavement, and providing health information

- We provide a welcoming and warm space that promotes stimulation through a calendar of activities and focused promotion.
- We deliver the Reading Well collection, which helps people understand and manage their health and wellbeing through reading. The collection includes Reading Well for mental health, Reading Well for dementia, Reading Well for children, Reading Well for teens. The books are all recommended and endorsed by health experts.
- We deliver a range of Creative and social activities to engage and connect people, such as reading groups, Lego clubs and craft/gardening sessions.
- We provide services to support people who are blind or partially sighted, including large print books and spoken word books.
- In partnership with our volunteer staff we support vulnerable housebound residents with books and spoken word books through our home library service.

READING – ENGAGE, IMAGINE, DISCOVER

Delivering and promoting creative reading activities in libraries.

- We deliver a regular reading group in the library, which can make people feel more confident and improve their mood whilst nurturing new friendships.
- We deliver the annual Summer Reading Challenge, which encourages children to read during the summer holidays through a series of rewards and activities. SRC prevents the "dip" in reading abilities that many children experience during the summer, building confidence and self-esteem in children and preparing them for their return to school in September.



CORE OFFER

INFORMATION AND DIGITAL – INFORM, INSPIRE, INNOVATE

Access to quality information and digital services, to learn new skills and to feel safe online.

- We offer free access to the internet through our public access computers and Wifi.
- We deliver a Customer Service Point providing access to a wide range of Council services such as blue badges and bus passes.
- We work with volunteers to enable users to gain IT knowledge and confidence and connect digitally.

CULTURE AND CREATIVITY – EXPLORE, CREATE, PARTICIPATE

A variety of quality and diverse arts and cultural experiences through local libraries.

- We deliver arts/crafts and social groups encouraging inclusivity and creativity.
- The events we run promote inclusivity, celebrate diversity and encourage understanding and tolerance.

CHILDRENS PROMISE - HELPING CHILDREN HAVE THE BEST START IN LIFE

- We offer a range of books and other resources to support literacy, learning, health, and wellbeing.
- We deliver a weekly programme of pre-school activities to develop early language and literacy skills. These include a weekly Rhymetime, Baby Bounce and Stories and Songs sessions.

PERFORMANCE

APRIL 2025 - MARCH 2026

9,293

Visits to children's events

118,467

Books were issued at Poynton Library

1,085

Visits to our Story and Songs sessions
on a Wednesday morning

700

Visits to adults events

1,630

Customer service enquiries

972

New members joined Poynton library

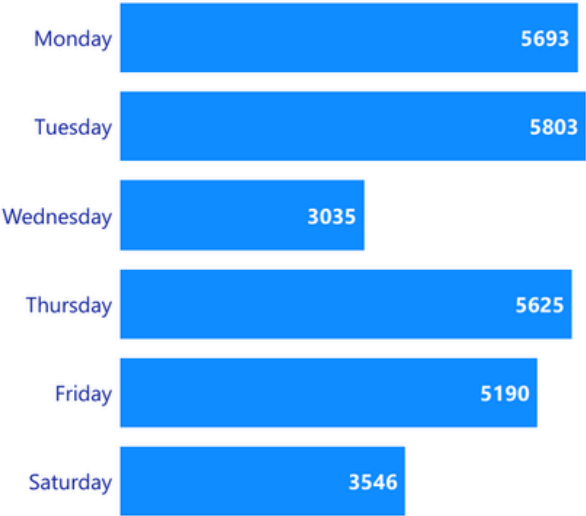
55,583

People visited Poynton library

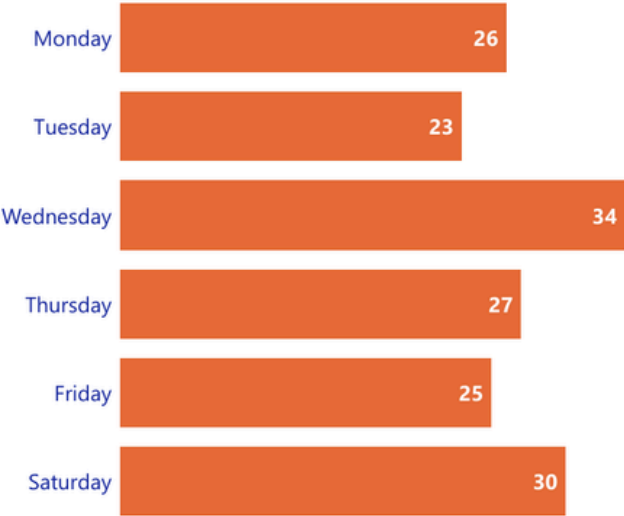
PERFORMANCE

Half-Annual Visitor Counts (01/09/25 - 31/03/26)

Total, split by Weekday



Average per Hour, split by Weekday





SUMMER READING CHALLENGE



**1 IN 4 CHILDREN CANNOT READ WELL BY THE AGE OF 11.
THIS HUGELY LIMITS THEIR LIFE CHOICES AND SKILLS**

WE'RE ON A MISSION TO CHANGE THIS.

The annual Summer Reading Challenge is the UK's biggest reading programme for primary school aged children, addressing poor literacy levels amongst children by encouraging them to continue reading for pleasure throughout the summer holidays with incentives such as stickers and prizes, collected each time a child returns a book to the library.

Consistently high levels of engagement from children across Poynton are achieved through regular visits to local primary school assemblies, combined with free family activities in the library throughout the summer. All the children who completed the challenge received a medal and certificate.

417

**CHILDREN TOOK PART IN THE CHALLENGE
WITH 172 COMPLETING IT**

FEEDBACK

We have had some lovely feedback from our customers about our stories and song sessions

Comments included:

“socially and mentally, gave my little girl confidence and she made friends. it's my favourite day of the week.”

“It allowed me and my son to come somewhere warm and meet other people. Allows my son to hear different stories. Engages in the songs. “

“I look after my Grandaughter on a Wednesday and I find the session very beneficial ,it is good for my granddaughters social and intellectual development as well as the fun aspect, also it helps me, taking her to such a caring and nurturing environment where I know she is safe and has other children to interact with. “