

9 September 2021

Dear parents and carers

### **Young Adult/Senior fiction permission forms**

We are fortunate to have two fantastic libraries here at Weald of Kent, one at Tonbridge and one at Sevenoaks, and our students use them enthusiastically. Along with general fiction and non-fiction, both sites also have Young Adult and Senior Fiction collections. Items can be borrowed or reserved from either library.

Senior fiction titles are books you would find in the general adult fiction section at a bookshop or at the public library. As you will be aware, some of these books discuss adult topics, or have some sexual content or swearing. They are borrowable for students in Year 9 and above but younger students can have access to them with parental permission. A note will then be placed on their library account giving permission for Senior Fiction titles to be borrowed.

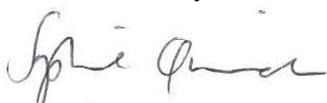
Young Adult books are written with teenagers in mind and confront issues that are of great importance to some teenagers, their friends and families. Friendship issues, dating and relationships, LGBTQ topics, school, physical and emotional abuse, alcohol and substance misuse, bereavement and racism are all issues which can be found in Young Adult titles, and they are sometimes addressed in a very frank manner. This may seem daunting but these books are often a powerful learning and coping tool when a student connects with a character and what they are going through. They can function as a very effective way for parents to discuss sensitive topics with teenagers through the medium of fiction.

As Librarian, I personally select all titles for the school library and am impressed by the way Young Adult literature handles these topics and promotes healthy discussion of them amongst students. However, younger students may not be ready to face such issues and they could lead to distress or confusion. As their parent/carer, you know your child best, and may not wish your child to have access to these titles. If this is the case then please indicate it using the second option on the form. Be assured that there are plenty of excellent enjoyable and challenging titles in the Teen Fiction section of the library that all students can borrow. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me by email at [squinnell@wealdgs.org](mailto:squinnell@wealdgs.org).

Please click on this link to access the permission form <https://forms.office.com/r/16xkNDquJt>

We place great emphasis on the importance of wider reading and expect all students to have a book in school with them every day, either from home or the school library.

Yours sincerely,



**Mrs Quinnell**  
Librarian

Headteacher: Mrs E Bone BA (Hons), MA  
Tudeley Lane, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 2JP  
Tel: 01732 373 500

Email: [school@wealdgs.org](mailto:school@wealdgs.org)  
[wealdgs.org](http://wealdgs.org)

**Weald of Kent Grammar School Academy Trust**

Charity, incorporated in England and Wales  
Registration Number 7451660, Limited by Guarantee