



## School Library Association Inspiration Award 2017 – Winners!

**The School Library Association Inspiration Award 2017 for primary schools has been awarded to Adderley Primary School, Birmingham.**

The judges were impressed with the immersion in books and reading children encountered, with a reading culture spread throughout the whole school. The library is within a wide corridor, central in the school. The walls are vibrant with book quotations and illustrations. Stairs lead off the library, depicting book spines. Lights illuminate shelves of titles attracting readers from 3 years to 11. Staffing the library, not only with a school librarian, but also a Reading Manager means children always have someone to consult about books.

The secondary school SLA Inspiration Award winners presented an impossible choice. So, in this exceptional year of excellent shortlisted schools, **three schools are joint winners.**

- **American School of Madrid**
- **Headington School, Oxon**
- **Hymers College, Hull**

All these school libraries have responded to their individual needs with unique design.

The **American School of Madrid** offers a Makerspace without compromising the traditional library area for study and relaxation. The expanding space welcomes the user for one aspect of school life and answers questions you didn't even know you needed answering.

**Headington** has an exceptional balance of books and IT, blending tradition with 21<sup>st</sup> century sustainable, green planning. Led by the professional librarian, this library was designed with outside the box thinking, expanding the traditional gym with a glass surround, working together in harmony.

**Hymers College** have taken Hull's City of Culture vision and designed a beautiful building to welcome their wider community into a multi-use hub offering 21<sup>st</sup> century library facilities in an inspiring design putting the role of the Library and Librarian at the heart of teaching and learning.

The School Library Association Inspiration Award has been created to set future standards for the recognition of excellence in school library design. The award will be made biennially to the school library space that shows inspiration, innovation, creativity and resourcefulness in its library design and in use, either through creative use of specific products or promotions.

Gresswell [www.gresswell.co.uk](http://www.gresswell.co.uk)

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