

Case Study: Elspeth Ewing, Librarian at Woolmer Hill School

Research and creativity

Librarian, Elspeth Ewing, provided research support to a Year 9 Religious Education (RE) class project intended to explore and raise awareness of the Holocaust. After researching various ideas they decided to base their work on The Butterfly Project, an initiative by the Holocaust museum in Houston, Texas to remember the 1.5 million children who perished in the Holocaust. Pupils were required to research and create a memorial for a child lost in the Holocaust inspired by the poem "The Butterfly" by Pavel Friedman. Elspeth researched and found relevant websites to add to the library catalogue, demonstrated to pupils how they could access the catalogue, and how to use search parameters and keywords to find the information that they needed. The project was very successful and many

pupils were also inspired to borrow books from the library to read more on the subject of the Holocaust.

The project reinforced and built on pupil's research skills and ability to learn independently. It contributed to the library's aim of developing independent learners who can organise their own learning and grow in maturity in terms of their ability to self-regulate their motivation, emotions, behaviour for learning and time management.

It demonstrated how teachers can collaborate with the librarian in order to provide relevant resources and how to access them, as well as how planning lessons together can help to produce work of a high standard. It has raised the profile of the library and this teacher is keen to collaborate again.



A collection of the finished projects displayed in the library. Other projects were displayed in the classroom.