



Natasha Lee

# SCHOOL LIBRARIES SUPPORT THE UN SDGS

The United Nations' seventeen Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a call to address the current environmental, political and economic challenges facing our planet. From mitigating the inequalities faced by minority and disadvantaged groups to tackling the plastic pollutants that contaminate in our oceans, school libraries can play a key role in successfully meeting each of the SDGs.

It would not be unreasonable to question how school libraries could possibly contribute to all seventeen of the goals, especially those seemingly so far removed from the school library's sphere of influence, such as no poverty

School libraries are places the community turns to for answers, where great ideas are born and where the unimaginable is made possible



and zero hunger. However, school libraries are places the community turns to for answers, where great ideas are born and where the unimaginable is made possible.

ALIA has captured the power of school libraries realising each of the seventeen SDGs through the release of *Australian School Libraries Support the Sustainable Development Goals*. This document is designed to be a practical guide, providing information, suggestions and resources on how Australian school libraries can support each of the goals now and into the future. The *Australian School Libraries Support the Sustainable Development Goals* document connects school library and information professionals to new ideas, empowering them with the

knowledge and skills to initiate change, and takes up the global challenge to cultivate school communities that are environmentally sustainable and inclusive.

The document is designed for all partners in education – school library and information professionals, the school community, and educational leaders at local, state and national level – as well as those with simply an interest in how school libraries can contribute meaningfully to the goals. It has been thoughtfully put together with consultation from primary and secondary teacher librarians and library staff across Australia to provide a powerful guide that is suitable across all library, school and community contexts.

We hope this document allows school library and information professionals to bravely step outside the norms and traditions of their school communities with a vision for change, igniting the initial movement to build momentum towards a more sustainable future.

This project was part of a student placement. If you are interested in the rewarding experience of hosting an LIS student our [accredited course providers](#) would love to hear from you. 🌱

---

## NATASHA LEE

Teacher Librarian  
Cooranbong Public School  
[natasha.lee23@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:natasha.lee23@det.nsw.edu.au)

