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1. Multicultural bulk loan stock shortage

We are very short of children's **picture and board books** in **French, German, Spanish and Swedish**. The wait for these formats and languages is very long.

- Libraries are advised to return any overdue loans in these languages to enable us to circulate to other libraries.
- Requesting libraries are advised to request for smaller quantities of these formats and languages.
- Libraries with existing requests can expect them to be partially fulfilled (eg. 10 items may be supplied if 20 are requested).

2. Staffing updates

The team has recently welcomed two new Library Assistants, **India Bowtell** and **Roozbeh Guitoo**. Tseten Dolkar will return to the team in October. Britta Mortensen is on long service leave and will retire at the end of the year.

3. 2025/26 Multicultural bulk loan statistics

- The multicultural collection grew to 77,464 items in 2025/26 (an increase of over 3,000 items over the previous year).
- Loans for 2025/26 totalled 79,731, which was consistent with previous years.
- The top 10 most requested languages for 2025/26 were French, Spanish, Italian, German, Russian, Japanese, Chinese, Hindi, Persian and Portuguese. We saw a significant increase in demand for French and junior titles.
- A full report for 2025/26 will be available on our website by late August 2026.

4. SLNSW English large print and audiobook stocktake

- [About the collection and long-term loan.](#)
- We have started a stocktake of the large print and audiobook collection that we have loaned to NSW public libraries.
- Libraries with current loans will expect an email with stocktake instructions between July and September 2026.