



Accelerated™
Reader



Enthusiasm for reading is vital; without competent reading skills, young people have difficulty accessing the curriculum and are thus unable to really show their ability in exams. Reading really is a skill for life and that is why we take it very seriously indeed and have invested in the internationally regarded, new literacy system, for the benefit of your child and all children at Newmarket Academy.

What is Accelerated Reader?

Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 students will be participating in the Accelerated Reader programme as part of their English lessons. You will be able to track your child's progress and what books they have read on the School Gateway.

AR is a computer program that helps teachers and librarians manage and monitor children's independent reading practice.

Your child picks a book at his own level and reads it at his own pace. When finished, your child takes a short quiz on the computer. (Passing the quiz is an indication that your child understood what was read.) AR gives children, teachers, and librarians feedback based on the quiz results, which the teacher then uses to help your child set goals and direct on-going reading practice.

Children using AR choose their own books to read, rather than having one assigned to them. This makes reading a much more enjoyable experience as they can choose books that are interesting to them.

Teachers and librarians help your child choose books at an appropriate readability level that are challenging without being frustrating, ensuring that your child can pass the quiz and experience success.

If your child does not do well on the quiz, the teacher or librarian may help your child:

- Choose another book that is more appropriate.
- Teachers will listen to your child and ask more probing questions as your child reads and before your child takes a quiz.
- Pair your child with another student, or even have the book read to your child.

In most cases, children really enjoy taking the quizzes. Since they're reading books at their reading and interest levels, they are likely to be successful. This is satisfying for most children. Best of all, they learn and grow at their own pace.

How can I help my child become a better reader?

As with anything, performance improves with practice. Encourage your child to read at home. Create a culture of reading in your household by reading with your child, starting a home library, visiting your local library or bookstore on a regular basis, letting your child see you reading, and discussing books that you have read. When reading with your child, stop and ask questions to be sure your child is comprehending what is read. Reading with your child, no matter what the child's age, is an important part of developing a good reader, building a lifelong love of reading and learning, and creating a loving relationship between you and your child.

Make learning a family affair!

Kind regards

The Accelerated Reading Team:

Graham Wigley – Literacy Co-Ordinator

Hazel Simmons – Assistant Head Of School

Kate Nolan – Head Librarian

Alison Dent - Librarian

For more information please go to: www.renlearn.co.uk