

Accelerated Reader (English KS3) Intent



'...decades of research have established that voluminous, purposeful reading is key to literacy development. Intentional, protected time for independent reading within the school day allows students opportunities to practice reading skills in a high-engagement, low-stakes environment. Students have choice over the medium through which they develop reading skills, fostering true engagement in the act of reading.' (Harvey & Ward, 2017)

The aim of the Accelerated Reader programme is to close the gap between students' chronological age and their reading age. In order to do this, we dedicate an hour of structured, independent reading time and track their reading progress through the use of data.

Confident Learners	Confident Communicators	Confident Future Citizens
<p>To create confident learners, the Accelerated Reader curriculum is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tailored to students, through the use of adaptive and customised STAR tests. • Designed so that all students can succeed, regardless of ability and reading age. • Challenging yet achievable. • Well-resourced, with a range of challenging, diverse texts invested in yearly and IT equipment available for students to use regularly. 	<p>To create confident communicators, the Accelerated Reader curriculum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exposes students to different types of texts, including non-fiction articles and texts. • Promotes an open dialogue between students about different texts. • Promotes an open dialogue between staff and students, reflecting on and evaluating their progress. 	<p>To create confident future citizens, the Accelerated Reader curriculum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Builds cultural capital and global awareness through diverse texts. • Closes the gap between chronological age and reading age, enabling students to become functionally literate.
<p>The Accelerated Reader curriculum provides opportunities for all to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read widely and fluently. • Be independent and take ownership. • Have the time and space to read in a meaningful and valuable way, developing reading stamina. 	<p>The Accelerated Reader curriculum provides opportunities for all to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore different perspectives. • Develop empathy and understanding. • Have access to different voices and styles of writing. 	<p>The Accelerated Reader curriculum provides opportunities for all to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience enriching texts that teach them about relationships, society and other cultures.

The Key Concepts running through Accelerated Reader
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building resilience and confidence through reading, especially independent reading. • To increase students' reading age and 'narrow the gap', so that students can access the texts in GCSE exams and they are literately prepared for their future. • Extrinsic motivation of 'weekly minutes' and targets used to challenge and encourage students – shared frequently so students can reflect on their progress and can be guided by teaching staff to ensure they succeed. • Giving value to reading by dedicating an hour of curriculum time each week – students to become regular readers who acknowledge the importance of reading, even if they don't quite see the pleasure in it just yet. • To work alongside extra-curricular reading and writing projects (such as HubFest, The Booker Club etc.) to promote a love and enjoyment of reading and texts. • Fostering a reading culture where students are expected to read in and outside of school, and to have an appropriate reading book with them at all times.