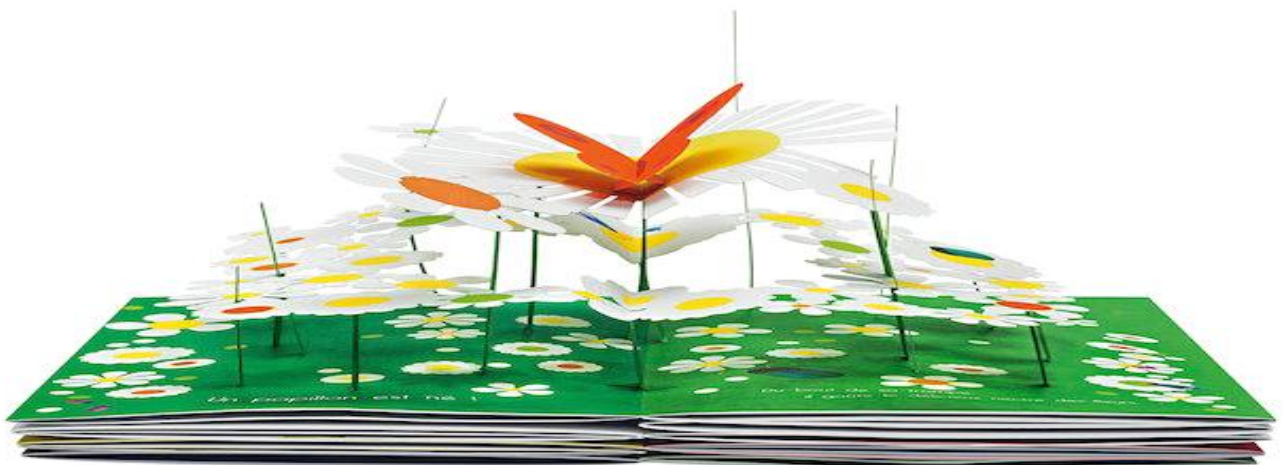




Accelerated[™]
Reader

'Excellence and ambition from all, for all'

What is Accelerated Reader and how can parents help with reading at home?



Why use Accelerated Reader?

At Longridge High School we feel that it is vitally important that all our pupils continue reading regularly at secondary school. Independent reading will develop a range of higher order reading skills that will improve their literacy skills and ultimately their attainment and progress in a range of subjects. As parents you have a vital role to play in this process.

To help us support your child with their reading we use the computer program, Accelerated Reader for all Year 7 and 8 pupils.

What is Accelerated Reader?

Accelerated Reader is a computer program that monitors and assesses pupils' independent reading levels. It is widely used in primary and secondary schools around the country to improve reading accuracy, independence and understanding.

How does the program work?

Pupils take a STAR reading test at the beginning of the program to determine a reading age and most importantly, a reading range to ensure that they are reading a book that is suitable for their ability. This STAR test reading information provides the teacher with a wealth of data which can be used to target specific and personalised intervention for pupils.

0.0 – 1.9	
2.0 – 2.9	
3.0 – 3.9	
4.0 – 4.9	
5.0 – 5.9	
6.0 – 6.9	
7.0 – 7.9	
8.0 – 8.9	
9.0 +	

Pupils use the reading range to find a suitable book to read – these are colour coded in our Library

How will your child follow the program in school?

- Pupils will be given one Accelerated Reader lesson per week. During this time, they will be able to read, take quizzes and visit the Library to exchange books.
- In addition to their Accelerated Reader lesson, pupils will also be given time to read during two tutor sessions per week.
- Once the book is finished, pupils take a quiz on-line to check they have read the book and understood it – tablets/PCs are used for these.
- Pupils can check their progress using the ‘Accelerated Reader’ APP which allows them to see progress towards targets, pass rates, words/books read. This can be accessed at school on a PC/tablet or at home via the link on our school website

What can I do to help?

Part of the homework for English is for pupils to read their library book regularly, ideally every day. You do not need to hear your child read aloud, but encourage private reading.

However, some parents still enjoy sharing a book with their child, sometimes taking turns reading a page or chapter each, for example. With a long or challenging book this can help to keep the story flowing. Regular practice at home will make a real difference to your child's reading ability.

With the busy lifestyles we lead it may be that occasionally, it will not be possible to read every day. If this happens do not worry, but do try to make up the time missed on other days to compensate.

Once a book has been completed, it is advised that your child completes a quiz as soon as possible so this can be done at home via the link on our school website.



How can I help my child choose the correct book for their level?

The book your child chooses to read can be one from home or from the school library as long as it is on the Accelerated Reader program and it is within their reading range. You can check if a book is on the program and the range that it is in by using the following:

<https://www.arbookfind.co.uk>

If your child chooses a suitable book from home, they can bring it into school to use during their reading sessions. Alternatively, you could enjoy the book together as an additional read to the one they are using in school. Your child will still be able to take a quiz on this at school or at home.

How will my child be rewarded?

Of course the greatest reward for your child's reading efforts is their progress and increased reading ability. However, we also recognise that regular rewards will help motivate them.

At the end of each term, there will be an Accelerated Reader assembly. During this assembly, pupils will be given certificates and prizes for the number of quizzes that they have passed and words that they have read. In addition to these, AR teachers and tutors will nominate pupils for special awards for effort.

At the end of each three week cycle, your child's Accelerated Reader teacher and tutor will nominate a 'Star Reader' and will send a postcard home in recognition of their achievement.

Accelerated Reader is also linked to the school's Classcharts system therefore pupils can gain positive points for their reading.

We are continually striving to add to these rewards so we hope to add even more incentives throughout the year.



READING GIVES US SOMEPLACE TO GO WHEN WE HAVE TO

STAY WHERE WE ARE

What will happen if my child does not complete the expected level of reading?

Class reports will be checked each week to ensure that pupils are completing quizzes. If your child has not completed at least one quiz within three weeks, they will be expected to stay after school on a Friday. You will be notified in advance if your child has not passed a quiz in the time allocated and therefore will be required to stay in room 12 for 20 minutes of reading time. Pupils can also complete quizzes during this time.

You will be able to check your child's progress through their account that can be accessed through our school website. On here, you will be able to see quizzes that have been taken and passed.

Making Progress

Since introducing the Accelerated Reader program at Longridge High school, we have witnessed substantial improvements with our pupils' reading skills. We firmly believe that if your child uses the program as advised, they will make excellent progress throughout KS3. Ultimately though, it provides a solid base for their GCSE studies.

Accelerated Reader is beneficial to all pupils as it ensures that it stretches and challenges pupils to reach their potential.

However, we realise how valuable your support is and we would greatly appreciate your continued support at home so that we can all help your child reach their full potential.



**“Take time to read
It is the foundation of wisdom”**

