



ACCELERATED READER

Reading has a huge profile at Chase Terrace Academy, and we aim for all our pupils to become avid readers as it is our philosophy that reading is the key to learning and success! During Year 7 and 8 your child will be participating in the Accelerated Reader programme, which is designed to ensure that all of our students read well for their age. We strive for our pupils to excel in this area to facilitate their achievement in all subjects across the curriculum. Therefore, there is an expectation of 25 minutes homework reading per night to ensure maximum progress. It is important that pupils fulfil this expectation so that they can be regularly tested and can access a wealth of texts. We would really appreciate your support in monitoring this taking place at home each evening. Ideally, your child should have a relaxed and quiet environment to be able to read in with no distractions in order for them to concentrate fully on what they are reading. It would also be beneficial for you to engage with them about what they are reading.

At school, we provide opportunities for additional reading in library lessons, form time and during Drop Everything and Read at the start of lessons. We expect that your child should be completing book quizzes on the Accelerated Reader website within 24 hours of completing the text. The tests can be carried out in the library before school, at break, at lunchtime and after school (until 4.30pm) as well as during form times when they will have timetabled sessions specifically for testing and reading. Your child can also complete book quizzes in their own time at home after school or an evening. The individual reading tests are crucial as they allow the AR system to calculate how much and how well your child is reading. With regular testing of each book read, we are able to report accurate and useful information to you as parents so you know how your child's reading journey is progressing. Our excellent librarians have a dedicated section to Accelerated Reader texts in the school's library where your child can come and select an age and ability appropriate text to read at school and at home. English teachers and librarians will be more than willing to assist in the selection of books, though it is important for your child to select books they think they will enjoy and that will challenge them.

It is an expectation that your child has an AR book with them every day in school and takes books out of their own accord. You and your child will be provided with a login for the website so that you have immediate access. For any students that are struggling to complete these expectations, we have useful intervention strategies in place. One of these is an after school session where those below the expected minutes reading per day can come to read in a quiet environment with members of the English department and seek support on how to progress. These sessions are compulsory and designed to support our pupils. They are not a punishment. To get your child started, we include a list of recommended reads with this letter.