



# Haydock High School

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Ref: ESW/ KB

25<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

Dear Parents/Carers,

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, many of our students have grown out of the habit of reading regularly. As a result of this, ability and confidence in reading has been affected. We are asking for your support in encouraging and motivating students to get back into the habit of reading to help improve their literacy levels which will ultimately have a positive impact towards your child's future.

This year, we are re-launching the Accelerated Reader (AR) programme which is used to track students' reading progress and to monitor how effectively our students are reading. The AR programme will be delivered to our Year 7 and Year 8 students, who will participate in a fortnightly session in the Learning Resource Centre.

To ensure students are reading successfully, all students will loan a book from the library which they are expected to read both in, and between, AR sessions. Students should bring their AR books to school each day, as this will now become a part of their expected equipment (like planners and pencil cases). Once students have finished their book, they are asked to take a quiz which enables us to monitor how well students have read and understood their book. From these quizzes, we can begin to form an idea of your child's reading and comprehension ability and then use this to help support progress. Each term, students' reading ages will be retested to monitor the impact AR is having on your child.

Our aim is to raise the success rate of reading within our school, so this year, competitions have been introduced to motivate and excite our students. Prizes will be won for our Reading Millionaires (those students who read one million words), there will be a Mini-League, where prizes are available for those students who read and quiz on five or more books. We will also have a Reading Super Challenge and Whole Class Quizzers prize to motivate both staff and students alike!

The AR programme is only as successful as we make it. Please encourage your child to read at home, we recommend at least fifteen-minutes every day to heighten progress. Reading at home will also be set by your child's English teacher, who will check the reading progress of each student in their class. If you are struggling to get your child to read at home, please do contact their English teacher. We are here to work on strategies to support your child with their reading journey.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs E Swindells.  
Associate Assistant Principal – Deep Learning.  
Teacher of English.