

Reading

Reading is promoted throughout Longfield Academy in every subject. Expectations of students is that they read for 20 minutes everyday. In years 7 and 8, every student should have a reading book with them everyday.

We have a well stocked Learning Resource Centre (LRC) with books suitable for every age group and every ability.

The LRC is accessible for students before and after school, break and lunchtimes.

Accelerated Reader



Accelerated Reader (AR) is a reading programme used in Years 7 and 8.

The basics are, a student reads a book, takes an online quiz and gets immediate feedback. Students respond well to regular feedback and are motivated to make progress with their reading skills. Year on year, here at Longfield Academy, we are noticing the positive impact on reading and progress the students are making on AR.

Students develop reading skills most effectively when they read appropriately challenging books - difficult enough to keep them engaged but not so difficult that they become frustrated. Regular Star Reading assessments determine each student's current reading level and the range of book levels within which the student ought to be reading in order to make the greatest progress.

The AR Bookfinder website (<http://www.arbookfind.co.uk/>) is a public search engine allowing students, teachers and parents to find appropriate books that interest every reader.

If a student has their own iPad, then they need to download the AR App. To connect to 'My Renaissance Place', you need to type in <https://ukhosted26.renlearn.co.uk/1896323> then use the user name and password given in school.

AR Motivates Students of Every Ability



AR is an effective support for students giving them regular successes as they develop their reading skills. Avid readers aim for large points targets and try to become Word Millionaires by reading a million words in the course of an Academic Year. These are displayed on the STAR Reader board in the LRC.

How can you as parents get involved?

Students and parents get instant feedback to help motivate success. Students receive a TOPS (The Opportunity to Praise the Student) report every time they complete a quiz, giving teachers the chance to recognise successes and set targets. Using Renaissance Home Connect (see below), parents can view the children's progress from home.

Rewards

We give out small rewards to students to celebrate their achievements and motivate their reading. If a student gains 90% on a quiz, they can choose a bookmark and if they gain 100%, they can choose a bookmark or stationery item. They are also rewarded with a positive credit on the BehaviourWatch system for all staff to see. In addition, if a student achieves 100% on ALL quizzes in a term then a Postcard will be sent home to praise them for excellent reading.

Renaissance Home Connect - For Parents

Renaissance Home Connect improves the school to home connection by allowing parents, carers and students to log in to a website and view the student's reading practice and progress towards targets. Access to online results promotes discussions between parents and children, which motivates children and can make reading practice even more effective. In addition, parents can specify an email to receive regular updates on their child's reading progress.

- You can log in to Renaissance Home Connect from any computer with an Internet connection and compatible browser.
- To log in to Renaissance Home Connect Website:
<https://Ukhosted26.renlearn.co.uk/1896323/HomeConnect>
- The Username and Password are the ones that your child uses to access Accelerated Reader to quiz.
- If you'd like to receive emails showing your child's quiz or test results, click the Email Setup link in Renaissance Home Connect and follow the directions.

For more information on Accelerated Reader goto www.renlearn.co.uk

Click here for a PDF Parent's Guide to Renaissance Home Connect.

If you require any further information, please contact:

Mikaela Desforges (LRC Manager) mikaela.desforges@longfieldacademy.org

