

Implementation of Accelerated Reader

Context
The Academy consists of two schools on separate sites that are half a mile apart. There is one governing body and one Senior Leadership Team serving both schools. Staff work extremely closely with each other and all subject leaders are responsible for subjects across both schools.
The Academy has consistently achieved above the national average in reading, writing and mathematics and both schools have been judged by Ofsted as outstanding since 2008. We are continually looking to drive the school forward and improve practice.

Impact

Average Reading Age Year 2	
Sept – Jan	+ 8 months
Jan – April	+ 6 months

There has been a clear impact on reading levels and progress since the implementation of Accelerated Reader in September. Children are choosing a variety of books, reading more frequently and enjoying reading. We now have a clear and reliable way of assessing reading progress and comprehension skills that enables children to choose from a variety of stimulating books that are suitably challenging.

School Development Plan:
Further develop our own aspirational standards in Reading.

- Encourage reading for pleasure and enjoyment
- Ensure excellent comprehension skills
- Update an old reading system and library
- Measure reading progress and attainment

“I love choosing my new books, there are so many books I want to read!”

“Quizzing is really good, I like it when I get 100%”

“I think my reading has got better because I read more and think carefully because I want to do well on the quiz.”

“We now have a reliable way of assessing reading ability and comprehension skills.”

“The reports show exactly the progress individual children are making and identify areas for development.”

“Children are enjoying reading ‘real’ books and look forward to the reading sessions each day.”

Accelerated Reader
Research – We went to see Accelerated Reader being used in another school.
We realised we needed to update reading books in school to books that were on the Accelerated Reader system and to have books that would foster a love of reading, real books that children love to read. It became evident that we needed to set up Junior Librarian to compliment the Accelerated Reader system.

How it Works

- Star Reading Test
- Choosing books within a ZPD
- Quizzing
- Dedicated time to read
- Reports to analyse progress and identify areas for development

Leading the Project
The leading of the project involved introducing the system to colleagues and ensuring that they were all on board and knew exactly how the system worked through training. It was then introduced to children through a whole school assembly so that they had the opportunity to ask questions and fully understand the system. Finally two sessions were held for parents so that the system could be fully introduced and explained, again with the opportunity to address questions or concerns that they had.