



# Moorside High School

*Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions*

Dear Parents/Carers,

Reading is one of life's most essential skills. At Moorside High School, all students will be competent readers. Our hope is that all children will develop a love of books; enthusiasm for promoting their reading skills and grow to be confident readers. As a parent or carer, you play a vital role in supporting your child's reading development, our partnership between home and school is essential for success with this life skill.

At the start of the new term, students will be required to carry a reading book as part of their school equipment. This is to ensure that students choose a reading book independently to read at home, during form time and to participate in Accelerated Reader.

Reading is happening all the time in our classrooms and across school. It is taught in English lessons, but children are practising and using their 'reading' constantly across all subjects too. However, the importance of students selecting and reading their own books independently should not be underestimated.

As per school policy, in January students who fail to have a reading book as part of their equipment will be issued with a BFL 3. This BFL 3 will result in a half hour afterschool reading intervention where students will be required to read, until they have quizzed as part of Accelerated Reader.

As Christmas approaches, it is the perfect opportunity to add some interesting books to their Christmas lists.

## **Selecting a book:**

Ideally, students should be reading a novel as research has found these types of texts to be the most engaging and challenging.

Students can read any novel they find interesting but we recommend students select a book which is within their most recent ZPD number range (this information can be provided by form tutors). All book titles can be checked using [ar.bookfind.co.uk](http://ar.bookfind.co.uk). The website will also list whether students can take an Accelerated Reader book quiz on their chosen title.

## **Accessing Books:**

- A wide range of engaging and modern books are now available in our refurbished library. Our librarian, Mrs Smith is also on hand to offer recommendations and advice on selecting the right book. · For local library services in Salford, please visit <https://www.salford.gov.uk/libraries/>. You can join your local library, browse their catalogue and order books from other libraries.
- Many supermarkets also have a stock of novels at low prices or on offer which can be added to your weekly shop.
- Charity shops are also an accessible way to find books at a fraction of the cost of new ones.

## **Accelerated Reader:**

To make the most progress, students should be reading 15 minutes each day. We expect that students are able to read at least one book each half term and take an Accelerated Reader quiz once they have finished to demonstrate their understanding of the book.

Head Teacher: Mr C Davis • 57 Deans Road, Swinton, Manchester, M27 0AP • Telephone: 0161 921 1045 • [www.moorsidehigh.com](http://www.moorsidehigh.com)





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Some students within the school have already read many more and have been inducted into the Word Millionaire club to qualify for an end of year trip. Students are also invited to complete the reading activities on their Leadership Pathways as well as being rewarded in half termly assemblies.

## How can parents support students?

Parents can support this 'reading journey' through regular reading at home.

Reading every evening for at least 15 minutes can make a dramatic difference to a child's achievement within school.

## Here are some tips for reading with your child at home, including:

1. Make time to read - even ten minutes a day. Setting a specific time each day (e.g. just before bed) can help create good habits.
2. Create a good reading environment – ensure your child has somewhere quite to read, away from distractions such as mobile phones or television.
3. Choose books together, ask questions about likes for dislikes and use this to help you both select a book. If your child is a fan of a particular genre of film or game, they may enjoy reading books from the same genre. Perhaps there is even a book of the film to get them interested.
4. Talk about the book- asking your child questions. Do they like what they are reading? What happened in the pages they have just read? Are there any words or ideas they don't understand or need help clarifying? Can they predict where the book is going next?

Some students may be reluctant to read at first. *I firmly believe that everyone can enjoy reading, you just need to find the right book.*

If you have any questions, please speak to your child's form tutor in the first instance. We look forward to seeing what students have chosen to read in the new year.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Emma Beach

Literacy Coordinator

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