



# Moorside High School

*Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions*

January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Your child has been identified as a participant for a reciprocal reading group which we feel will really benefit them. This will begin the week commencing 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

Your child has been selected due to their reading age being at least 2 years below their chronological age. The intervention will take place during a 1 hour set lesson each week, avoiding the core subjects such as maths, science and English. The sessions will run until the end of the academic year, unless any students make significant progress through their Accelerated Reader test by the end of the Spring term.

As I am sure you understand, literacy is the key to unlocking potential in all subjects throughout the curriculum. To support your child further, encouraging your child to read for pleasure can ensure they make significantly more progress in vocabulary, spelling and maths than children who read very little (Sullivan and Brown 2013). Furthermore, encouraging your child to test independently using Accelerated Reader will allow them to track their progress more closely.

## **What is Reciprocal Reading?**

Reciprocal Reading is a reading strategy which takes a structured approach to teaching reading comprehension within students. Reciprocal Reading has been proven to increase good independent reading skills as it encourages students to think about their own thought-process, question what they are reading and become actively involved in comprehending the texts they are reading.

During the sessions, students will take one of four roles focusing on the key elements of a good reader:

- Summariser
- Questioner
- Clarifier
- Predictor

These roles will be modelled and supported by a trained member of staff in small groups of five. At the end of the Spring term, students will be re-tested using Accelerated Reader to demonstrate the progress they have made in months and years. If your child tests independently throughout the programme, each quiz taken will give students a midpoint review of their ZPD number which correlates to the progress they have made, without having to wait until the end of programme test to see progress. Dependent on progress, students will/will not continue with the programme after the Spring term.

Starting from next term, we will have a greater focus on reading as all students will be required to have their own reading book as part of equipment. Furthermore, students will continue to be read to during form times once a week through our newly invigorated DEAR programme. At Moorside, we also have a brand-new library full of classics and new releases your child may enjoy reading with a librarian happy to assist with any recommendations.

If you have any questions about Reciprocal Reading or literacy in general, please feel free to contact myself at [laura.powell@consilium-at.com](mailto:laura.powell@consilium-at.com).

We thank you for your understanding and support with this.

Yours faithfully

Miss Laura Powell  
Literacy Co-ordinator

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

