

## Accelerated Reader in King's Oak Academy

All students in Years 7, 8 and 9 are enrolled on the Accelerated Reader program. They have a one-hour Accelerated Reader lesson every two weeks.

Each student will take a thirty four question computer test, three times per academic year to determine their personalised book level. They then go to choose a book within that range. Our students are expected to read that book within the next two weeks.

When they have finished their book, they take a short quiz on the computer, which is all about that book. They then get a report on how well they have done in the quiz. The report tells us if they are on target and if they have understood the book fully. Each student progresses at their own personalised level. There are now over 40,000 book titles on the Accelerated Reader program, fiction and non-fiction, with around 200 extra titles being added each month, so there should be no reason for a student not to be able to find a book.

If our students cannot find a book in the academy that they have been recommended to read, we encourage them to join their local library. They can go to [www.arbookfind.co.uk](http://www.arbookfind.co.uk) to find out if any book that they wish to read is on the Accelerated Reader program. If it is, they can read it in their spare time and take a quiz at the end of it.

You can also check their progress at Home Connect (<https://ukhosted16.renlearn.co.uk/2233191/HomeConnect/>), where your son or daughter can log in with their username and password to show you their 'bookshelf'.

Students can take quizzes at home, on an Apple phone or tablet. The app, Accelerated Reader from Renaissance learning, is easily downloaded. You will then need the school ID code, KS-62KQ. Once you have put this in, the student can log in with their usual username and password.

Alternatively, students may take a book quiz from home, via the school website. On the homepage, in the bottom right hand corner, is a list of useful links. The last one is Accelerated Reader; clicking on the link takes you to the login page, where your son or daughter can log in as usual.

For students with a short memory, they are given a Chapter Sheet so that they can record what they have read at the end of each chapter (or at the end of each reading session). This way, when it comes to taking their quiz, they can remember what happened in the book.

If you would like any more information about your child's Accelerated Reader progress, please contact me at the school or email me at [jacobsonl@koac.org.uk](mailto:jacobsonl@koac.org.uk)

Alternatively, you can contact your child's English teacher.

Ms Lucy Jacobson

KS3 English Programme Leader



## How does it work?

### Accelerated Reader Advantage helps:

- A. **Inform** instruction with simple, effective STAR Reading assessment that accurately establishes each pupil's reading age and National Curriculum level
- B. **Engage** pupils with over 18,000 fun, motivational Accelerated Reader quizzes on popular books ranging from The Hungry Caterpillar to Roald Dahl and the Harry Potter series to the Classics
- C. **Achieve** improved standards of literacy across the class, Year Group or school – with each pupil progressing at their own level



### A: INFORM

The **STAR Reading** component of **Accelerated Reader Advantage (ARA)** is computer-adaptive baseline assessment software that quickly and accurately establishes the actual reading level of individual pupils so that growth can be easily measured and tracked over time.

Up to 16 key reports are available that aid screening, placement, progress monitoring, growth measurement and Response to Intervention (RTI). The wealth of information available can be used to inform the creation of a personalised reading plan for every pupil.

Each assessment completed establishes a Zone of Proximal Development (ZPD) for use with Accelerated Reader, in addition to a National Curriculum level and sub-level.

### B: ENGAGE

The main component of **Accelerated Reader Advantage** is **Accelerated Reader**, which utilises the STAR Reading results to offer fun, motivational quizzes based on the books deemed most suitable for pupils according to their individual ZPD.

The ZPD identifies a Book Level (an appropriate reading range) for each pupil containing books that are deemed neither too easy nor too challenging, so that they can enjoy the text and gain the necessary reading practice to improve.

Once completed, the pupil takes a fun, motivational **Accelerated Reader (AR)** quiz based on the text. Over 18,000 popular fiction and non-fiction titles have already been quizzed, with a further 200 added each month. In addition to these Comprehension quizzes, Vocabulary and Literacy Skills quizzes are also available on a number of titles.

Both the pupil and teacher receive the results of the quiz the moment it has been completed in the form of a TOPS (The Opportunity to Praise Students) report, which details whether or not the recommended 85% pass level has been reached and highlights areas for improvement. In addition to providing valuable information for the teacher, it makes an excellent home-school report that keeps parents and guardians regularly informed of reading progress.

Pupils earn points each time they successfully complete a quiz, which count towards their individual and class targets set by the teacher using the information provided by STAR Reading. This competitive element of the program really engages and motivates pupils of all ages to pick up another book as soon as they have successfully quizzed their last one.



### C: ACHIEVE

Schools using **Accelerated Reader Advantage** achieve an average of two years' reading growth in just one academic year – with some reporting as much as four years in the same period.

In addition to improved standards of literacy across the class, Year Group or school thanks to informed instruction and personalised reading practice, ARA places the library at the heart of the school – and significantly boosts book circulation.

Every school using ARA receives online and on-site training by a designated Implementation Specialist, has access to help and support from our Customer Services Team, and can share hints, tips and best practices with other schools using the program at free local events.

