

Reading Plus Introduction

Dear parents and carers,

We have invested in the online reading development programme, Reading Plus, which develops reading skills at every level. Reading skills are essential life skills which will support your child in achieving their potential at GCSE and beyond in their chosen career path. Did you know the average GCSE paper is written for a reading age of 15 years and 7 months? To access every question your child needs to be reading at or above their chronological age.

What is Reading Plus?

Reading Plus is designed to improve children's reading. It does this by developing silent reading fluency (reading speed) and then introducing more complex stories (for comprehension) and advanced vocabulary (for knowledge). Children have access to 1,100+ high-quality online texts that are both engaging and inspirational and match students reading levels. Teachers can monitor precisely what and how children read, meaning they can offer the proper support when needed.

What will my child gain from using the programme?

The stories are short and engaging to keep motivation levels high, and your child will be exposed to many cultural and inspirational texts - anything from 'What can one child do to save the world?' to 'The future of AI'. Your child will challenge themselves to become a better reader and, in doing so, develop better reading habits. They will better understand what they have read and become more confident no matter what their starting point is.

Parent and Carer Workshop

To have impact children need to read often. We will be setting Reading Plus as independent study 20 minutes a day, 5 times per week, as part of homework expectations. Here is a video guide to support you at home with accessing this <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=POXlxEAYadY>

If you require more support or simply want to find out more, please join us in a short information workshop to provide further information and useful tips to get started on

23rd October 16:30 – 17.15.

For more information about Reading Plus, please visit www.readingsolutionsuk.com or contact Krystyna Stokes (reading lead) on kstokes@newsomeacademy.co.uk

Yours faithfully,



Mrs K Stokes – Assistant Head Teacher and Reading Lead

Frequently Asked Questions

Does Reading Plus work on a laptop or an iPad?

Reading Plus runs on laptops, desktops, iPads, and tablets. Due to the screen size, we wouldn't recommend using Reading Plus on a smartphone.

Do I need to download an app?

Reading Plus doesn't need an app downloading - it's all accessed through a secure website.

Is there anything I need to do to support my child when they are working on Reading Plus?

Reading Solutions UK has a range of helpful resources for parents and guardians. Visit <https://www.readingsolutionsuk.co.uk/resource-category/home-use-for-parents-and-pupils/> You may also wish to sit with your child when they first use the programme. Other than that, it's just ensuring that Reading Plus is used regularly as directed by the school.

Can I see what my child is doing on Reading Plus?

Yes, ask your child to show you their personalised Dashboard - from this screen, you will see when they have been on Reading Plus, for how long, how well they are doing, the level they are reading at, and their reading speed.

How to check your child's reading progress

Once your child is logged in to their Reading Plus account, click on the 'Families' link at the top of the screen for more information on how the programme works and resources. Children should aim:

- For 80%+ comprehension scores in the Reading lessons.
- To earn combos. Pupils will need to complete two Reading Lessons in a row at 80%+.
- To unlock new Levels by collecting Combos.

How long should my child be on Reading Plus?

Ideally, every day for about 30 minutes (at home and in school combined), but at least three times a week. Little and often is best!

Why does the program use the moving bar when my child reads the stories?

We call this the 'Guided Window'. The Guided Window was developed to teach children to navigate lines of text sequentially - sometimes called left-to-right scanning. It teaches children to read at their own pace, which builds fluency and stamina.