



# Riverside Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers

## Accelerated Reader

I am writing to remind or introduce you to the Accelerated Reader scheme that the school uses as part of its reading programme. This method of monitoring pupils' reading has proved to help improve pupils' reading ability and enjoyment of books as they progress into becoming fully independent readers.

We assess the pupils half termly which allows us to generate an individual reading interest level known as the "Zone of Proximal Development" or "ZPD". You will note that your child has been given a range (for example 3.4 - 4.1) This means that any books which are within this range are suitable for your child to read. For example, your child may bring home a book which is 3.6 one week and then 3.4 another week. Both books would be deemed appropriately challenging by Accelerated Reader.

Pupils are guided by their teacher and Learning Support Assistants each week to select a school reading book according to their ZPD. Once they have completed the book, they can then take a short quiz at home to test their comprehension which will reward pupils with points to help meet their reading targets. A new book will then be selected, and the cycle continues.

Children are able to access accelerated reader for quizzing at home using their school login and the following website address :

<https://login.renaissance.com/12d2cb13-3207-4391-b16a-ea40754a4f86?state=1365cd9d-b845-43fc-8a0a-b75307a43967> or by going to [www.hub.riversideprimary.co.uk](http://www.hub.riversideprimary.co.uk) and selecting Accelerated Reader icon.

Children are encouraged to read frequently and guidance for this can be located in our homework policy. Every day within school hours we endeavour to find as many opportunities as we can to allow children to read regularly at school. We, therefore, welcome your continued support in assisting your child with their reading at home.

Further information, provided by Renaissance (the authors of the Accelerated Reader software), can be found at the end of this letter. Additionally, I would like to direct you to the following website: [www.orbookfind.co.uk](http://www.orbookfind.co.uk) where more information about Accelerated Reader can be found. The website will also help you to search for and select books that are appropriate for your child according to their reading interest level.

Teachers monitor your child's progress and will feed back to you at parents' evenings or earlier if they have any concerns about your child's reading progress. If you have any questions then please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Thank you for your continued support with regards to your child's reading.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Claire Smith, Headteacher

## What Is Accelerated Reader?

Accelerated Reader is a computer program that helps teachers and librarians manage and monitor children's independent reading practice. Your child picks a book within his or her own level and reads it at his or her own pace.

When finished, your child takes a short quiz on the computer. (Passing the quiz is an indication that your child understood what was read.) Accelerated Reader gives children, teachers and librarians feedback based on the quiz results, which the teacher and librarian then use to help your child set targets and direct ongoing reading practice.

Children using Accelerated Reader choose their own books to read, rather than having one assigned to them. This makes reading a much more enjoyable experience as they can choose books that are interesting to them. Teachers and librarians help your child choose books at an appropriate readability level that are challenging without being frustrating, ensuring that your child can pass the quiz and experience success.

If your child does not do well on the quiz, the teacher and librarian may help your child:

- Choose another book that is more appropriate.
- Ask more probing questions as your child reads and before your child takes a quiz.
- Pair your child with another pupil.
- Have the book read to your child.

In most cases, children really enjoy taking the quizzes. Since they are reading books at their reading and interest levels, they are likely to be successful. This is satisfying for most children. Best of all, they learn and grow at their own pace.