

Read to Succeed

Developing confident readers, successful learners and lifelong book lovers at Appleton Academy

At Appleton Academy, we believe that reading is the foundation of success in school and beyond. Reading unlocks every subject, develops communication skills, expands vocabulary and opens up new opportunities. Our aim is simple: **every child leaves Appleton as a confident, fluent and enthusiastic reader.**

Why Reading Matters

Research consistently shows that children who read regularly are more likely to achieve highly across the curriculum, develop stronger **communication skills** and enjoy greater **wellbeing**. Reading builds knowledge, supports academic success and helps young people understand the world around them.

That is why reading is **everyone's responsibility** at Appleton Academy.

Reading Across the Curriculum

Reading is not confined to English lessons. In every subject, staff explicitly teach students how to access, understand and discuss challenging texts.

We support students through:

- **Track Reading** – teachers model fluent reading while students actively follow the text, improving attention, fluency and comprehension.
- **Explicit vocabulary instruction** – key Tier 2 and Tier 3 words are taught across all subjects.
- **Reciprocal Reading strategies** – students learn to think actively about what they are reading.
- **Carefully selected texts** that build knowledge and cultural capital.
- **Library lessons** and **wider reading opportunities** that encourage reading for pleasure.

Supporting Every Reader

We know that children develop as readers at different rates. Our **graduated literacy support programme** ensures students receive the right help at the right time.

Our reading interventions include:

- Little Wandle phonics and reading support
- Bedrock Learning

- Reciprocal Reading interventions
- Precision Teaching
- Reading Buddy programmes
- Chapter Club and targeted reading groups
- Additional support for SEND and EAL students through adapted resources and scaffolds

These interventions help students improve their fluency, vocabulary, comprehension and confidence.

Understanding Reciprocal Reading

Reciprocal Reading helps students become active, thoughtful readers. During reading activities, students use four key decoding strategies:

Predicting

"What do I think will happen next?"

Uses clues from the text, title or images.

Clarifying

"Which words or ideas need explaining?"

Identifies unfamiliar vocabulary.

Questioning

"What questions can I ask about this text?"

Summarising

"What are the most important points?"

These strategies help students develop the skills needed to understand increasingly challenging texts.

How Parents Can Help at Home

You do not need to be a teacher to support your child's reading. Small, regular habits make a huge difference.

- Encourage Daily Reading

Aim for 15–20 minutes of reading every day. This could be a novel, magazine, newspaper, non-fiction text or audiobook.

- Talk About Books

- Use the Reciprocal Reading Roles at Home
- Be a Reading Role Model

Children are more likely to read when they see adults reading. Share what you read and talk about books, newspapers or articles together.

Reading for Pleasure

We want students to experience the joy of reading, not just read for learning. Through our library, reading events, recommended reading lists and classroom reading opportunities, we help students discover books, authors and genres they love.

One of the key ways we promote a culture of reading is through our **Form Time Reader programme**, where tutors read high-quality, challenging texts aloud to students. This helps expose students to rich vocabulary, diverse perspectives and texts they may not otherwise choose independently, while modelling fluent and expressive reading.

We also run our **Read to Achieve** programme, which provides structured reading opportunities and recognition for students who develop positive reading habits. By celebrating reading and encouraging students to explore a wide range of texts, we aim to foster confidence, curiosity and a lifelong love of books.

A child who enjoys reading is far more likely to become a lifelong reader, and we are committed to ensuring every pupil has regular opportunities to read for both pleasure and purpose.

Working Together

Reading development is most successful when school and home work in partnership. By encouraging reading little and often, discussing books together and celebrating progress, you can help your child develop the confidence and skills they need to thrive.

Together, we can help every child become a reader, a learner and a leader.