



MacIntyre Academies Discovery Academy

Dear Parents & Carers

Reading Information for Parents

Our children and young people's reading experience at Discovery is happening all the time in a classroom and in the school. As well as specific reading and English lessons, our students are practising and using their 'reading' constantly across all subjects; students are encouraged to read and investigate for themselves.

Children and young people learn to read in different ways and at different ages. When a student is new to Discovery we assess their reading age. Students with a reading age above 10 years will choose reading age appropriate books from our library. All students have reading timetabled each day where they read their appropriate chosen book. Students whose reading age falls below age 10 years will be put on to the reading scheme we use and given the opportunity to read to an adult every day. Your class team will be able to tell you if your child is the reading the scheme.

The reading scheme we use at Discovery is Project X:

Project X Phonics

Project X Phonics provides phonics practice for students. It is based around exciting adventures, non-fiction and activity cards that are perfect for motivating reading. Activities offer plenty of practice blending and segmenting to really consolidate learning and support struggling readers.

Project X Code

Project X CODE is a proven reading intervention for students who are a little behind in their reading. It combines phonics and comprehension development in an exciting and motivational character adventure series. A two-text approach: Text 1 is 100% decodable to build confidence and develop vocabulary; Text 2 is 80% decodable to challenge children and deepen comprehension. Fourteen entry and exit points mean that children can start and finish the intervention at a point which is right for them.

Project X Origins

Project X Origins was developed by comprehension experts and helps students reach higher standards. The scheme includes action-packed adventures with fantastic characters and gadgets in the format of linked fiction and non-fiction to broaden reading choices. Engaging activities develop inference, critical thinking, vocabulary and other higher-order comprehension skills.

Read Write Inc Fresh Start

New from September 2020 for our struggling readers in KS3 is Read Write Inc. Fresh Start which is a catch-up and intervention programme with proven results, for 9 to 13-year-olds still learning to read. It teaches pupils to read accurately and fluently with good comprehension, to spell correctly and compose their ideas for writing step-by-step. Developed by Ruth Miskin, Read Write Inc. Fresh Start uses a proven phonics-based approach and: accelerates pupils' progress with finely levelled modules, supplemented by age-appropriate anthologies; engages pupils with high-interest, age-appropriate reading and writing materials that are matched to their increasing knowledge of phonics and 'tricky' words.



Putting children and families *first*

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Helping your child read at home

- We appreciate that reading at home with a child with an ASC or SEMH diagnosis can have its challenges below are a few tips that may help you support your child's reading:
- Make reading part of your child's daily routine.
- Some children like reading before bedtime, but others can be too tired at night. After dinner or after breakfast can be a good alternative. Some families make a comfortable place in the home called the 'reading corner'. When you can, try to make sure they see you reading, or read with them, so they know adults read too!
- Take reading breaks
- Your child doesn't have to read an entire book in one go! Any time you spend sharing or discussing a book is great, even if it's just a few minutes. Reading can use a lot of mental energy and taking breaks gives children a chance to build the resilience they need.
- Encourage choosing books that interest them.
- Keep books on a shelf they have regular access to. It is fine for them to read the same book or the same type of reading material (such as football magazines!) a number of times. Allowing them to follow their interests is a great way to keep them engaged and make reading fun.
- Use technology together.
- When used well with adult support, technology leads a path into reading. Use mobile phones, tablets, computers, laptops and other devices to engage your child in reading and activities that can help them build their vocabulary.

If you require any support or have any concerns about your child's reading either at school or at home please get in touch with your class team.

Yours faithfully

Matthew Pike
Principal