

How to support your child with reading – why is it so important?



Reading supports children to

Overcome disadvantage



Develop better mental wellbeing, social skills and strong relationships



Meet speech and language milestones and do better at school



Develop imagination, empathy and creativity



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Reading – why is it so important?

Book Trust and other sources of evidence tell us that:

- Being able to read helps all students access the curriculum, in all subjects. We have an education system rooted in the written word.
- Reading levels directly link to how well students do in maths GCSE – there are a lot of word problems they need to solve
- Being good at reading links to being good at Science – especially if a child faces disadvantage in their life.
- Reading helps teenagers understand other peoples' lives and build empathy. These are life skills.
- Reading enables teenagers to explore their identities and it helps their mental health.



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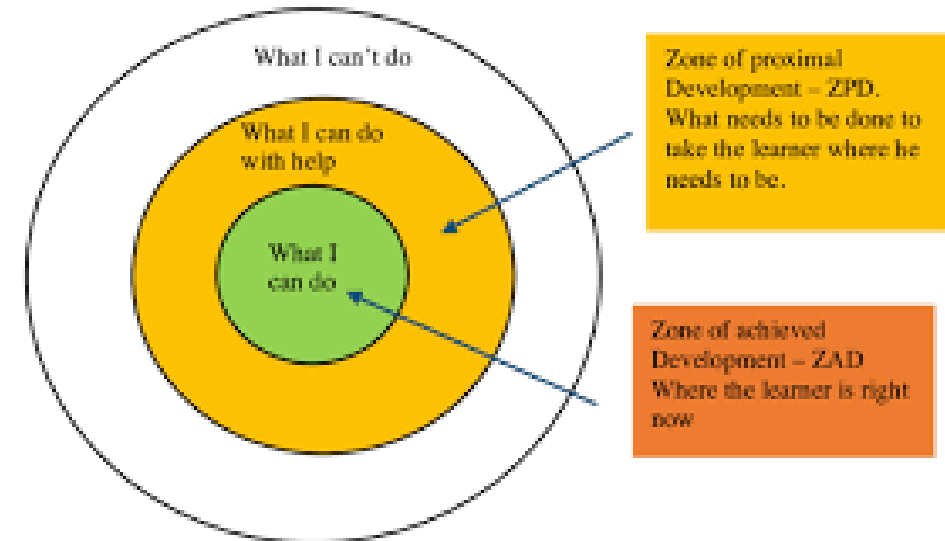
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What do we do at BBA to support your child?

- Firstly, we test students using a GL assessment called New Group Reading Test to understand their reading level. Teachers are given this information about reading levels so that they know how to support all students in lessons.
- Students who are below the 'average' score might qualify for reading interventions. These interventions are led by Learning Support Assistants.
- We use a system called Accelerated Reader. Using an online test, students are given a range of books that will be suitable for them – not too hard, but challenging enough. This is called the ZPD, zone of proximal development.



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What do we do at BBA to support your child?

- Students have one library lesson a week with a teacher.
- They choose a book within their range (books are numbered). These books are borrowed from the library and they must have them every day.
- When they finish a book they do an online quiz to check their comprehension.
- Students have a reading log to track their reading – you should see this at home too.
- Students also read everyday, just after lunch, for 10 mins. They must have their book with them!



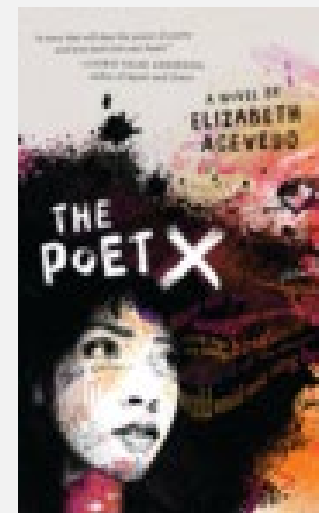
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What do we do at BBA to support your child?

- We are about to re-launch our Tutor Reading Programme.
- Your child's tutor will read to them and the whole group will share the experience of one cracking novel. We hope they will enjoy it!



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What can you do to support your child?

- Encourage them! Talk to them about the books they are reading.
- Reading together, with your child, has been proven to help them more than anything else (including homework supervision, trips and clubs).
- Ask to see their reading log. Praise them and monitor their progress as they pick new books.
- Evidence shows that students should read for 20mins a day – this might seem like a lot but it really matters. How can this be achieved when you are battling with screen time?



*Who are the characters?
What is so exciting about it?
Where is the setting?
Why is it different to...?
When is it set?*



What can you do to support your child?

- Check out local and online resources:
- [Libraries in South Glos](#)
- [Libraries in Bristol](#)
- [Book Trust - the place to go for information about appropriate books and all things reading](#)



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