



September 2022

Dear Parent / Carer

Reading Plus Programme (Year 7)

We have been overwhelmed with pride as our Year 7 students arrived at the Academy this week. This has most certainly set the tone for the year ahead and the progress that your child will make this year.

A key priority for all staff in the Academy is strengthening the provision in school that enables our students to become better readers. We have therefore adopted a web-based platform that helps students develop the skills they need to be proficient readers and independent learners. This platform is called **Reading Plus**.

To maximise your child's success with **Reading Plus**, it is important that we tailor the programme to their existing reading skills. Therefore, your child will complete their baseline assessment in their normal timetabled English lesson this week on **Thursday 15 September 2022**. The assessments will take place using your child's Academy iPad and so it is crucial that they arrive to the Academy with their **iPad fully charged**. They will also need to bring **headphones** with them so that they can fully access their assessment. **Please note** that Academy iPads will be distributed to students in Year 7 throughout the week **this week**.

We will evaluate the impact of the programme and the progress your child has made in their reading by implementing an additional reading assessment in July 2023. We will provide further guidance on this towards the end of the academic year.

Case studies have shown that the **Reading Plus** programme develops a student's transferrable skills which can be applied in all subjects: improving fluency, comprehension, vocabulary, and stamina as well as increasing student motivation for reading. These case studies and impact reports showing the effectiveness of this programme can be found here: <https://edtechimpact.com/products/reading-plus>.

Our skilled team of tutors have been trained in how to effectively implement the Reading Plus programme. Students will therefore complete **at least two 30-minute Reading Plus** sessions each week during an afternoon tutor session, highlighting the importance we have placed on reading this year. We encourage you to talk with your child about their reading each week as your conversations with your child could further impact on the success of the programme.

If you wish to discuss the Reading Plus programme in further detail, you are encouraged to contact your child's tutor in the first instance. We look forward to a successful year ahead and thank you in anticipation for your support of this new programme.

Yours faithfully

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