

10 years of experience with Accelerated Reader

GODMANCHESTER COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL, GODMANCHESTER

Godmanchester Community Primary School in Godmanchester, Cambridgeshire, implemented Accelerated Reader 10 years ago and have found it to be a very useful tool in motivating pupils to read and in providing a detailed diagnostic record of their performance. The majority of pupils enjoy using it and respond to the challenge that it presents to them.

Pupils choose a book from the school library, at the appropriate level. Books are labelled both for readability, book level and suitability, interest level. Books are also awarded a number of points, based on the length of the book. After being quizzed tested on the book the pupil has read, they score a number of points depending on the accuracy of their answers.

As well as reading within a recommended reading ability range, pupils are given a target number of points to try and achieve. They have an overall number of points to reach. Scoring points and achieving targets can often be motivation enough for a lot of pupils. At Godmanchester successes are recognised and those pupils reaching half-term and year targets are praised in assemblies.

Accelerated Reader is geared to developing independent readers and it assesses a pupil's comprehension of the material. Pupils are encouraged to read for meaning and to question their own understanding as they progress through a book.

Vicki Hayes - Godmanchester Primary School, Cambridgeshire, says,

"We've been using Accelerated Reader at Godmanchester for 10 years now. We've extended it across the whole of the juniors, which is 10 classes, and the enthusiasm is just wonderful. Books are wearing out because they are being read to death!"

Accelerated Reader is able to create a variety of different reports, from diagnostic information to a complete book list of those books that have been read and points tally for each pupil. Teachers remain firmly in control and have ready access to every pupil's reading performance.