

Accelerated Reader Seminar – June 13th 2007

GRANGE SCHOOL, OLDHAM

Grange Schools Experience

- Signed up for Accelerated Reader Advantage in September 2006, after a fact finding visit to a school in London where they reported a drastic improvement in their pupils reading ages after the introduction of the scheme.
- Pupils began using the programme in January 2007.
- Year 7 pupils initially, visiting the library every two weeks.
- Initial lessons quite chaotic but pupils very quickly become familiar with the system.
- Now the scheme has been widened to include Year 8 reading groups.
- Further expansion next academic year – all Year 7 and Year 8 pupils will participate, and English curriculum time extended from 4-5 hours per week to allow one dedicated reading lesson for each class every week.

Impact On Reading

- Our children were not readers.
- We now have 150 pupils enrolled on the programme.
- Since January 2007 1241 books have been read based on quizzes taken – these would not have been read before.
- In the last 30 (may 2007) days 133 pupils (86%) have participated in the scheme.
- 32% of pupils have achieved 85% and above in quizzes
- Pupils have now been tested twice to assess their reading level and growth, those who have been reading have moved to a higher reading level, whilst those that haven't read have moved down.
- Pupils are now motivated about reading – they respond well to the immediate feedback given.
- They want to make progress and move to higher book levels and gain certificates.
- Some of the keenest readers are boys.
- The scheme allows pupils to read independently, using the library in their own time, and know their teachers can monitor their progress through the various reports.

Benefits Noticed By Staff

- Easy to monitor who is reading and who isn't
- Diagnostic reports help with successfully identifying and intervening with reluctant/struggling readers.
- Great motivator – staff once reluctant to take pupils to read in library for an hour.
- Provides opportunities for staff to listen to pupils read/discuss reading.
- Another assessment tool, with introduction of reading age and national curriculum level.
- Easy homework task, software allows monitoring.