

Beckfoot is focused on promoting whole school literacy across all year groups and across the whole curriculum. This is to ensure that all students have the reading, writing and speaking skills required for life in and out of school.

How can you help?

The simplest and easiest way you can help promote your child's literacy skills at home is by actively encouraging or taking part in reading with them. This can be:

- Fiction (novels, comics, etc.)
- Non-Fiction (newspapers, magazines, websites, blogs, etc.)

Students who regularly read make the most progress in their Literacy and this has a positive effect on their achievement in all subjects of the curriculum.

Questions to ask your child about a text they are reading:

- Can you summarise what's happened on this page?
- Why did the character do that?
- What is the writer trying to say?
- For Non-fiction articles, e.g. a sports page, students can highlight where verbs/nouns, adjectives have been used. This will also help to improve their language skills, equipping them for GCSE.

Accelerated Reader™

Students in Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 are enrolled in the Accelerated Reader™ (AR) scheme. This involves students reading books pitched at their individual reading level (ZPD) that they have chosen to read for pleasure. After completing the book they then carry out an online quiz based on what they have read.

How much time should they spend reading?

As a minimum, your child should be reading for **at least 20 minutes a day**. However, real progress in their reading skills can be achieved if they are reading for **35 minutes or over a day**. Monitoring the amount of time your child is reading will significantly help boost their literacy skills.

How can I check my child's progress?

There is a link to the AR "Home Connect" service on the Beckfoot website, look for this logo . By clicking this link and using your child's login details for AR you can check on how many points they have earned, average percentage correct on quizzes and books they have read.

Rewards

English teachers will regularly track student performance on the AR quiz; students should be aiming to get 80%. The individual student in each year who has either read the most words, shown the greatest improvement, collected the most points will be given an individual special prize.