Dear Parents and Carers

As we begin the new academic year at Ecclesfield School, we would like to highlight the importance of encouraging your child to read for pleasure.

Reading not only enhances knowledge and vocabulary, but also fosters empathy, creativity and wellbeing, while contributing significantly to academic success.

To support your child's reading journey in secondary school, all Year 7 students will have access to the **Accelerated Reader** online reading programme.

Accelerated Reader is a computer-based programme that enables teachers to monitor and support reading development. Students read a physical book and then complete an online quiz to assess their understanding and engagement with the text.

To tie in with the programme, each term students complete an adaptive reading assessment called **STAR Reading**. This assessment generates a personalised reading range which helps students select books that are appropriately challenging, promoting reading growth and confidence.

Reading forms an important part of your child's home learning.

The Accelerated Reader programme has shown particularly positive results for students who read for **at least 20 minutes each day**.

Developing a regular reading habit can have a lasting impact on both educational achievement and personal development.

To help your child develop a lifelong love of reading, we would appreciate your support by:

- *Creating a reading-friendly environment at home.*
- *Encouraging a regular reading routine.*
- *Ensuring your child brings a reading book to school each day, either borrowed from the school library or an appropriate book from home.*
- *Monitoring and encouraging the recommended 20 minutes of daily reading as part of their home learning.*
- *Discussing books and reading with your child to help maintain their interest and engagement.*

Further information and login details will be provided to your child over the first few weeks of term.

However, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me or your child's English Teacher.

Kind regards,

Rachael Bird

Librarian and Literacy Manager 📧 rbird@ecclesfield-mlt.co.uk