





6 October 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

Year 9 - Reading Plus Programme

Reading is so important and even more so when students begin working towards their GCSEs and other formal qualifications. They are being asked to read efficiently through vast quantities of different texts, absorbing lots of new information and understanding new vocabulary. Whilst we support literacy skills throughout our curriculum we are always looking for new ways to improve reading speed, spelling and word knowledge.

Reading Plus is an online program that the school subscribes to and has shown promising results. It helps students develop the skills they need to be proficient readers and lifelong learners. It is a sophisticated programme that is designed to tailor itself to each individual learner, regardless of their ability. It is also specifically designed to help dyslexic learners, weak readers and students that have English as a second language.

Students have been registered in advance during an English lesson but we are also encouraging our students to use this reading programme at home to enhance their reading practice which may have been impacted by lockdown. Through regular practice, reading will become easier, comprehension will increase, and students will make meaningful connections between what they are reading and what they are learning. Reading Plus assignments can be completed outside of school on a computer or tablet that has internet access.

In your web browser: www.login.readingplus.com

Students have been provided with usernames and passwords and if unsure of them, should ask their English teacher.

The first time each student logs onto this programme, they will complete a baseline assessment, which needs to be completed in one sitting, as it is a timed assessment and needs to be completed independently. The majority of students have already done this in school. This baseline assessment will determine their individual starting point and the program will keep track of assignments completed each week. Please encourage your child to login into the program at least once per week.

We will monitor their progress remotely as well, and if we have any concerns then we will contact you. They will also have the opportunity to earn House Points for regular use (every week) and for the progress they make.

This programme is suitable for all students regardless of the subjects they are studying and their likely pathway post-16. It is one of many initiatives we have in place to help students catch up post the COVID lockdown and to ensure they have all of the skills required to access our full curriculum moving forward.

A guide to using Reading Plus is included below and you can also access a video tutorial on the programme here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sazdmbPv6Jw&feature=youtu.be

Please contact the programme administrators via: ReadingPlus@maidenerleghtrust.org if you have any queries or would like your child to receive support with Reading Plus.

Yours sincerely

E.l. Kelt

Miss E Roberts – Assistant Headteacher Literacy Lead

READING PLUS – TIPS FOR GETTING STARTED



Log in to your student reading plus account (as described above) to access your student Dashboard. Learn more about each section of the student dashboard by either clicking on the parents link at the top of the screen or by clicking on the Help Icons "?" found throughout the dashboard.

- The initial Insight Assessment takes 30-45 minutes. Headphones will be required to hear the explanations being given or a quiet room to allow them to focus and do their best.
- Encourage your child to concentrate when reading the short stories and to try their best to answer the questions carefully.
- The aim is to score 80% or above on each read. Use the reread button to help find the correct answer.
- Answering correctly, will unlock more texts and there are hundreds of texts and stories to choose from.
- Students can also personalise their dash board, avatars and reading speed.
- Encouraging your child to login and read for twenty minutes, twice weekly, will help them to become better, stronger readers.