

Our approach to reading at AJK

NGRT

Students in Y7 – 10 take the NGRT which is a national reading test designed to assess a child's reading age. This test is taken annually to both inform the level of support students receive with their reading and literacy, and to evaluate the impact of our curriculum.

The results of these tests are shared widely with staff, and reading ages are included on our class data sheets which teachers use to inform their planning.

Students identified as needing additional support either through the NGRT data or via referral from teachers, receive 1:1 intervention with a graduate teaching assistant focusing on phonics and reading comprehension.

Reading in lessons

Students read widely across the curriculum, not just in English lessons. In lessons students are encouraged to engage with reading in a variety of ways; by reading aloud, reading for comprehension, analysing and interpreting text. Teachers model good reading practices to teach students the skills they need to be effective academic readers.

Our English curriculum at KS3 follows the English Mastery programme, which deliberately focuses on literature to promote a love and understanding of a wide range of classical literature.

Students read the following core texts in:

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| Year 7 | Oliver Twist A Midsummer Night's Dream Anthology of modern poetry |
| Year 8 | Sherlock Holmes The Tempest Animal Farm |
| Year 9 | Jane Eyre Romeo and Juliet Poetry anthology |

Reading for pleasure and the school library

All students carry a reading book with them each day, and they are given regular opportunities to enjoy independent reading, for example during certain weekly tutor times and during lesson transitions.

The school library is not open this academic year due to COVID safety measures, however each class group has been given a selection of reading books to create a mini class library in their form room, so that students can continue to borrow books.