

# Hawthorn Community Primary School

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Dear Parents / Carers

I am so excited to announce that we have a new reading system in place called Accelerated Reader.

At Hawthorn, we want every child to be a confident, fluent reader who has a love of literature and shows excellent comprehension of what they read. Accelerated Reader is an online system that will play a part in enabling all children to be secure and successful readers.

Books in the school have now been placed into the Accelerated Reader system. Children who have finished the Read Write Inc phonics scheme will then join Accelerated Reader. All eligible children will take a test that will show their reading age and their book level. Accelerated Reader uses something called Zone of Proximal Development (ZPD) to give children their book level. Each book has been labelled with its related ZPD. The levels are as follows:

## Accelerated Reader Book Levels

AR Book Level	Colour
0.0 – 0.9	Pink
1.0 – 1.9	Orange
2.0 – 2.9	Yellow
3.0 – 3.9	Purple
4.0 – 4.9	Green
5.0 – 5.9	Blue
6.0 – 6.9	Red
7.0 +	Black

These levels are not related to age.  
Children's ZPD will have a range eg:

Child A ZPD is 0.3 – 1.6 This means child A can read any book within this range.

Child B ZPD 4.2 – 6.8 This means child B can read any book within this range.

Your child's teacher will oversee the types of book that your child chooses, but we very much want the children to take ownership of the books they read.

Once a book has been read, children will carry out a quiz based on their book. The quiz should be taken within 24 to 48 hours of completing the book. Children will earn points as well as tracking how many words they have read. Accelerated Reader monitors all books the children have read and also suggests new books to try.



We have an extensive collection of Accelerated Reader books in school; however, if your child has a book at home that they would like to read, you can always check it's ZPD level yourself by using Accelerated Reader Book Find website:

<https://www.arbookfind.co.uk/default.aspx>

Simply type in the title of the book to check it's ZPD level.

Some books are not on the Accelerated Reader system, this does not mean your child can not read that book, we just ask that they have one book that is their AR book and they can have another which can be read but won't have a quiz attached to it.

In school we are committed to providing the children with at least 20 minutes a day for independent reading time. We urge you to encourage your child to read EVERY day at home. Don't forget, sharing books together and being a reader yourself will encourage your child to develop their own love of reading.

As with any change in reading systems, there might be a few teething problems. We will endeavour to iron out any problems as quickly as we can. I will continue to update you on our Accelerated Reader journey. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Kind regards,

**Liz Blakeley**