

October 2024

Dear Parent/ Carer

At George Eliot Academy we value all aspects of your child's education; we believe in the importance of nurturing confident communicators within our community and as such take the literacy of our pupils very seriously.

Each year our pupils undertake a short online test from GL assessment called the 'NGRT' that helps us understand your child's reading ability and to identify any appropriate interventions that will support them to improve as readers. If you are interested in finding out more about the assessment that we use, you can find more information about it here:

<https://support.gl-education.com/knowledge-base/assessments/ngrt-support/general-information/information-for-parents>



Based on our most recent NGRT assessments we have identified your child to be part of our new '**Sparx Reader Stars**' cohort. This programme is an extension of our 'Sparx Reader' platform which we use weekly to set reading home-learning for all pupils in KS3.

Year Group	Stanine								
	Sig. Low	Low			Expected		High		Sig. High
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7	05:11	07:07	08:11	10:03	11:05	12:10	14:05	16:04	17:00
8	06:04	08:04	09:07	10:11	12:04	13:10	15:06	16:11	17:00
9	06:07	09:00	10:04	11:08	13:02	14:10	16:06	16:11	17:00
10	06:10	09:07	11:01	12:08	14:02	15:09	16:11	16:10	17:00
11	07:07	10:05	12:00	13:06	15:01	16:06	16:11	17:00	17:00

Where your child's reading ability currently is

How does it work?

Research shows that reading for just 20 minutes per day increases a child's vocabulary by 1.8 million words a year.

Presently, your child has a target to earn 300 Sparx Reader Points (SRP) a week, which is a Sparx Reader currency that roughly equates to 30 minutes.

As part of the Sparx Reader Stars cohort we challenge your child to attain 1000 Sparx Reader Points a week which is roughly 100 minutes of reading (just under 15 minutes a day or 20 minutes each school day)

This could be completed after school or during lunch time in L002, our Sparx Reader club or in L115 on a Wednesday and Friday lunch time.



Principal: Mrs H Zakary

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George Eliot Academy

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Reading just 20 minutes a day has been proven to have a huge impact on pupils' reading ability with many studies demonstrating a clear correlation between higher level readers and GCSE success. With the average reading age a GCSE paper being 15 years and 7 months it is not surprising that students who are in a high reading stanine achieve more grade 7-9s across all subjects than those who do not.

Your child will be given a rewards card which will be exclusive to the 60 pupils in our Sparx Reader Stars group, for them to track their reading and each week that they reach their target of 1000 Sparx Reader Points their English teacher will stamp the card and complete cards can be exchanged for prizes.

Whilst your child is currently reading in line with their expected progress this is an opportunity for them to continue to grow and improve as part of their experience at George Eliot Academy.

We thank you for your support, should you require any more information please contact our literacy coordinator Katie.broomfield@georgeeliotacademy.org.uk

Yours sincerely

K Broomfield
Literacy coordinator



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