



19th January 2022

Dear Parents / Carers

Here at Stokesley, we believe it is crucial for all our students to develop a high standard of literacy and a passion for reading in order to support them throughout their school journey and beyond.

### Quick Read

- We are launching a new area of our website to support students in developing a high-level of Literacy;
- there will be resources to support Reading for Pleasure, to help develop an academic vocabulary and to help students with their Grammar for writing;
- it will also include a dedicated area for our OLC with details of news and events;
- the link to access this area is: <https://www.stokesleyschool.org/curriculum/literacy/> and will go live on Wednesday 19th January 2022.

### Longer Read

Children who read books at least twice a week at age 11+ gain higher results in examinations at age 16 in comparison to those who read less regularly. Reading for pleasure enhances empathy, promotes greater self-awareness and the ability to understand one's own and others' identities. Research has also shown that those who read for pleasure have higher levels of self-esteem and a greater ability to cope with difficult situations as well as better sleeping patterns. Considering all these benefits, we are always exploring new ways to empower students to achieve their literacy goals.

I am extremely proud and excited to inform you that we are launching a new area on our website. This will be dedicated to all elements of Literacy, providing students, parents and teachers with a fantastic collection of resources, aimed at promoting not just reading, but also speaking and writing skills. I am sure you will agree that these skills are fundamental to students achieving the best possible outcomes.

The Stokesley Literacy Website will be a go-to resource for all your Literacy needs. Its highlights will include:

- our Reading for Pleasure area, including recommended books, new books, Track My Read and the myON reading app;
- our new OLC page, including competitions and opportunities to get involved (under development with our new OLC Manager);
- a Writing Toolkit, with fantastic Grammar Guide;
- an area devoted to developing the academic vocabulary that your child needs to succeed (following the latest guidance from the Education Endowment Foundation);
- links to our Creative Writing, Debate Club and Book Club.

You can access this area by following this link,  
<https://www.stokesleyschool.org/curriculum/literacy>





I would like to thank Mrs Thompson, one of our well established English team who is also our whole school Literacy Lead for her outstanding efforts in creating the site. Also Miss Rowland, our Senior IT Technician for her support in ensuring the area is easy to navigate. You will see that some of our areas will develop further throughout the year, including the OLC page. Should you have any suggestions or feedback about anything you would like us to include, please contact Mrs Thompson on [e.thompson@stokesleyschool.org](mailto:e.thompson@stokesleyschool.org). If you have any issues navigating the site, please contact IT support on [itsupport@stokesleyschool.org](mailto:itsupport@stokesleyschool.org)

We hope you find this tool useful in supporting your children at home with their independent learning whilst also inspiring them to be avid readers.

Kind regards

**Mrs J. Darbyshire**  
Deputy Headteacher

