

## Accelerated reader –

Accelerated Reader (AR) aims to implement an effective cycle of reading practice.

**Guide** – Pupils are guided with personalised goals around the three factors proven to make reading practice most effective:

- Comprehension • Quantity • Complexity

**Engage** – With AR pupils are encouraged to have motivation, engagement, and a love for reading by matching pupils with reading suggestions aligned to their interests and at the right level of challenge.

**Practice** – AR activities help build the vocabulary and literacy skills that play a fundamental role in reading and comprehension.

**Grow** – Regular AR quizzing and half termly assessments provide teachers with a quick and efficient insight into every pupil's progress allowing them to personalise their learning.

## **How Accelerated Reader is used at Meadowside**

Here are the five steps typically involved in determining an AR level:

1. Teachers determine each pupil's reading level. The program provides a multiple-choice assessment that takes pupils about 15 minutes on a computer. Teachers can also use results from other assessments or their own judgment. Reading level is based on typical grade-level skills.
2. Each pupil is assigned to a specific range of books on the program's BookFinder list. Books in that range will be challenging for the student but not too hard to read. This concept is called a zone of proximal development (ZPD). In AR, it is used to guide book selection.
3. Pupils choose a book that is in their ZPD. A teacher or librarian may help with selecting books. AR recommends that pupils spend about 30 minutes per day reading their books independently. Children may have independent reading time in class but are also expected to spend time at home reading.
4. After finishing a book, the pupil may take a short, multiple-choice online quiz. It checks if the pupil has read the book and understands it. Pupils usually take their quizzes in the classroom or library during the designated reading time.
5. Pupils usually stay at the same ZPD and reading level for at least a half term. At the end of that time, students take a 20-minute star reading assessment. It's used to adjust the books that each student can select. A teacher may raise or lower a child's ZPD for the next time period. You will be informed of your child's AR level in their reading record.

## **AR and pupils with learning and thinking differences**

Pupils who may struggle to read in KS2 will have access to RWI resources and other supportive reading material which can support them before moving onto AR. However, for some pupils who struggle with reading, the personalised approach of AR might be a benefit. They are given their own realistic goals to achieve. They can also enjoy choosing and reading books that match their interests and abilities.