



CAISTER ACADEMY
Creative Education Trust
School of Literature
and Performing Arts

Literacy at Caister Academy: A Whole-School Approach

Vision – a school of Literature and Performing Arts

- Every student can read fluently across the curriculum, using the language of powerful knowledge to enable them to do more by knowing more.
- Their spoken and written language accurately reflects the knowledge that they have acquired so that they can communicate their thoughts and ideas effectively.
- Students choose to self-acquire new knowledge through both traditional and digital texts, reading around the subject matter they encounter across the curriculum.

Reading at Caister Academy

Our determination to close the ever-emerging reading gap is at the forefront of form time and lesson planning here at Caister Academy. Within KS3 form time, our students are immersed into our guided reading programme; a programme designed to engage students in a range of literature and to model to them the fluency of reading, pronunciation, and intonation, as well as recalling, defining, and clarifying key vocabulary.

Our whole school Reading for Meaning strategy also promotes a whole academy approach to reading: tracking the text with a ruler, summarising key information, and clarifying for understanding.

Interventions

- *Read, Write, Inc* phonics programme for those who require it upon entry in year 7.
- *Lexia* for our year 7 and 8 students.
- A bridging curriculum within English once students have graduated from the phonics programme.
- *Catapult* reading and comprehension programme for all years.
- Handwriting intervention for those who require it.

Testing Cycle

- Upon entry in year 7 and if joining the academy throughout the academic year, students are tested using our GL reading test to acquire an accurate picture of their reading age.
- Each year group is tested yearly towards the end of our summer term.
- If a student is allocated to an intervention group, testing will reoccur at the end of each term to monitor the progress of their reading.
- All reading age data can be found on Arbor for each student and is updated after each testing point.

Learning Through a Literacy Lens

- Our curriculum is designed to plan for, and implement our Caister Academy literacy strategies for reading, writing and oracy. Curriculum leaders plan each unit of work with these strategies in mind, which subsequently filters down to lesson planning and delivery for all our teachers and subject assistants.
- As an academy we promote the use of subject specialist language across all subjects and within all lessons. Vocabulary lists for each subject are printed within student exercise books and are also published on our website.
- All subject assistants have been phonics trained to assist those students who require further support and intervention across all subject areas.

Literacy at Home

- Watch our literacy at home video for hints and tips for reading with your child at home.
- Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPaG) guides and workbooks are available to purchase through ParentPay. These are provided to PP students with lower reading ages for free.
- Workbooks available through ParentPay to support with reading fluency and comprehension.
- Explore our reading lists for ideas and inspiration for reading for pleasure.