



September 2023

Dear Parent / Carer

Unlocking the Power of Reading – NGRT

We have been filled with pride and excitement as our students returned to the Academy, and last week our students embraced their first full week of learning following the summer break. Their enthusiasm sets a promising tone for the year ahead, and we are determined to ensure your child makes excellent progress throughout this academic year.

One of our top priorities at the Academy this year is enhancing our provision and interventions to empower our students to become strong readers. To support your child's success in the coming year, it is essential that we tailor our lessons to each student's individual reading skills. Therefore, your child will complete a baseline reading assessment during their usual timetabled **English lesson** on either **Tuesday or Wednesday this week**.

These assessments will be completed online using your child's Academy iPad. It is crucial that they arrive to the Academy with their **iPad fully charged**, just as we expect them to do every day. Additionally, they should bring headphones to ensure they can engage fully with the on-screen assessment. If your child's iPad has been lost, stolen or damaged, can you please contact **Mr A Burton** by email **this week** so that this can be addressed (Alexander.Burton@oasislordshill.org).

For some students, this on-screen reading test will enable us to target additional reading interventions throughout this academic year, aimed at teaching them effective reading strategies and better developing their reading skills. We will provide more information on this in the coming weeks if your child is identified through the reading assessment as someone who would benefit from further interventions.

Please note that students do not need to revise or prepare for this on-screen test. It assesses their reading skills rather than specific knowledge about any texts.

Our dedicated team of English teachers has received training on how to effectively administer these on-screen assessments. We are confident that your child will approach this reading assessment with confidence.

As part of our broader conversation about reading, we encourage you to engage in regular discussions with your child about their reading habits each week. Research has shown that conversations about what your child is reading can support their engagement with reading and have a positive impact on their learning at school and, also, their progress.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss your child's upcoming on-screen Reading Assessment in more detail, please feel free to contact your child's English teacher in the first instance. We are looking forward to a successful year ahead and want to thank you for ensuring your child brings their iPad with them to the Academy.

Yours faithfully

Mr S Knight
Vice Principal

Miss J Curtin-Sewell
Head of Department – English

Executive Principal - Mr Benjamin Bond
Head of School - Dr Karen Riding

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