



**Newman  
Catholic College**

Everyone Counts  
Everyone Contributes  
Everyone Succeeds

**Newman Catholic  
College**

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Headteacher: Mr D P Coyle  
Chair of Governors: Mr P O'Shea

## Tips to support Literacy at home

### How often should pupils be reading?

Pupils should read between 20 to 40 minutes every day, ideally a book that is at the correct level. More progress is made when pupils read a variety of texts (news articles, poems, short stories, novels), fiction and nonfiction and different genres.

### How do I know what books pupils should be reading

Newman Catholic College uses the Accelerated Reader programme.

- [Parent's Guide to Accelerated Reader](#) or <http://www.renlearn.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/AR-parents-guide-updated.pdf>
- Pupil planner - page 42 will have information on reading age and book levels

### How do I know whether pupils have been reading?

- Ask pupils what they have been reading. Try these questions
  - ***Fiction*** - Tell me the story? Who are the main characters? What do they look like? What's happened to them so far? How are they important to the story?
  - ***Nonfiction*** - What is the main subject of the book? Can you tell me what you have learnt about this? How does it link to other subjects or topics?
- Students can quiz books using Accelerated Reader from home. Use [Home School Connect](#) to track their progress. Use the student login to get access. You can also set up email alerts

### During this time, how do pupils get access to books?

- [Online books from Accelerated Reader](#)
- Local libraries have access to eBooks and eAudiobooks. You will need a library card to access this. If you don't have a library card, [adults can sign up online](#)
  - [Brent Libraries](#)
  - [Barnet Libraries](#)
  - [Harrow Libraries](#)
  - [Westminster Libraries](#)
- Open access online libraries
  - [Project Gutenberg](#)



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- The school has given books to students throughout the year. If pupils haven't read these yet, now is the perfect time. Last week, students were given their selected Book Buzz book to encourage reading for pleasure.

### How do pupils get access to other materials

- PressReader: Being a member of the local library will give free access to eNewspapers and eMagazines through this app.
- [David Walliams' daily audiobook](#)
- [Literacy Trust: Reading and Writing resources for parents and families](#)
- [The Book Trust: Tips and advice for reading](#)
- [Book Riot: Best Children's podcasts](#)
- [Storyline: Children's podcasts](#)
- [Children's Poetry](#)
- [Encyclopedia Britannica](#)