



BBG Academy – Reading Strategy 2025-2026



At BBG, we believe that reading is a fundamental aspect – not just of a student’s educational journey – but also in life. We have high expectations of students to ensure that they are well-equipped for their experiences both in their time at BBG and beyond. We also believe that the best support for reading is responsive; accurately identifying concerns regarding comprehension, fluency and vocabulary as they happen. In addition, we use diagnostic strategies for identifying students’ reading ages – such as the NGRT – to ensure that we can identify needs early and monitor progress over time.

BBG Academy’s Approach to Reading

Targeted Intervention	Universal Offer		
Additional Support for the weakest Readers	Reading Independently and for pleasure	English Curriculum	Wider Curriculum
<p>Significant Weaknesses in Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified by the NGRT test, re-tested for Lexonic Placement Lexonic Leap Intervention on a rolling basis Small group intervention with KS2 trained specialist Nurture Group placement in KS3 Phonics teaching and Lexonic Leap Speech, Language and Communication Intervention <p>Multiple Reading Concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified by the NGRT test, followed by Lexonic placement Small group intervention after school focusing on comprehension and inference via Lexonic Advance Guided reading & writing <p>Below Average Reading Age:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> QFT – teachers adapt classroom practice to support via wave 1 Sparx Reader support and monitoring 	<p>Sparx Reader:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All students complete 300 points of ‘careful, personalised’ reading that monitors student engagement Rewards offered to highest engaged students Support offered weekly to support completion of homework <p>Quality Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well-stocked and maintained library with titles refreshed yearly Library lessons offered for all year groups via a booking system and expectation of KS3 Recommended reading lists <p>Extra Opportunities - Seasonal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BBG Literature Festival – Summer term – inviting in writers, poets and playwrights Reading Challenges – KS3 – students participate in challenges linked to books read for pleasure Novels provided for student ‘Summer Reading’ in Years 8 & 9 Book of the Week highlighted in BBG Bulletin for KS3 & KS4 	<p>Carefully chosen texts to increase cultural capital:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In KS3, texts range from ‘Ghost Boys’ in year 7 to ‘Pygmalion’ in year 9. Short stories, Shakespeare, poetry and non-fiction all support a richer, wider understanding of the world we live in. In KS4, focus shifts to an understanding of contextual factors contributing to the creation of texts across 19th and 20th C Britain. Students study literature texts to prepare for the AQA English Literature exam. They also read critical, contemporary and complementary texts of the time periods studied. <p>Curriculum Thinking Documentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curriculum is developed by threading through key concepts for both reading and writing Use of knowledge organisers and booklets support delivery of key concepts for all learners <p>Literacy Lessons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At KS3, all English lessons include at least one bespoke literacy lesson per week 	<p>Reading ages consistently tracked and published to all staff via SIMS</p> <p>Classroom Based Intervention strategies target students with higher needs – either in reading age or in learner profile</p> <p>Form Time Reading – Students in all year groups read a text linked to PSICHE topics for the term, increasing the understanding of the topics as well as building diversity of viewpoints. Texts range from short stories like ‘Safety of Numbers’ by Amy Tan, to informational texts, to memoirs like ‘Born a Crime’ by Trevor Noah.</p> <p>Visible Reading Culture – staff reading books displayed on doors and in corridors to demonstrate every adult is a reader</p> <p>Quality First Teaching within lessons to maintain high expectations and support of all readers at BBG</p>