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Dear Parents/Carers

### **The Accelerated Reader (AR) programme for Years 7, 8, and 9**

We write to ask for your support with the Accelerated Reader (AR) programme which all students at The Dean Academy follow throughout Years 7, 8 and 9.

AR is a programme that encourages and promotes reading for pleasure at home. The programme is followed in Primary and Secondary schools nationally – in fact, in many selective schools, students continue to participate in Key Stage Four and Five. Key skills developed through the AR programme include retaining and recalling information, which are essential skills for exam success in Years 10 and 11.

In school this year, your child will enjoy fortnightly AR lessons in the library, where their teacher will help them to choose a suitable AR book which they can take home to read. But it is here that we need your support. **Success in the programme depends on students reading books that are on the AR booklist for at least twenty minutes each day, and this needs to be done at home.**

To help you support your child's home reading, they will have a blue Reading Record Card which we ask you to sign after each independent reading session. When each book is successfully read, your child will take a quiz in the school library. Certificates are awarded as students reach reading and quizzing milestones – including £5 vouchers for passing ten quizzes or becoming a word millionaire!

Although we have a substantial school library, students can also find AR books from other sources, including books at home, from their local library, or books that can be found and read online. They can search the AR site by author or genre (including non-fiction) to check whether a book they want to read is on the programme. This can be done in the school library or from home by searching for AR Book Finder.

The AR programme is a challenge: it takes determination and resilience. But it will reward your child with new experiences and academic success.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. Many thanks for your support and happy reading!

Yours sincerely

**Ms S Paton**  
**Lead Teacher**

STP/RO/RIB/TW – AR KS3-030921

**Mr R Osbourne**  
**Director of Faculty**

**Mr R Brand**  
**Headteacher**

