

'READ ALOUD'

Once a week, students enjoy a 'Read Aloud' lesson in form time. In this session, the form tutor reads a fictional novel to the class and students actively listen and then discuss the novel. The programme is intended to provide all students with the opportunity to listen to an adult read, which widens students' exposure to academic vocabulary and ultimately their knowledge of vocabulary.

A typical session consists of: a brief recap of the previous week's reading, a sustained period of modelled reading from the form tutor a discussion about the reading and an opportunity for students to volunteer to read aloud to the rest of the form group.

We opted to offer our students an opportunity to listen to modelled reading instead of individual silent reading as listening to an adult read is something that not all students experience and research suggests that modelled reading has significant benefits for all students and exposes students to a wider vocabulary which in turn improves the size of students' vocabulary.

The canon of literary texts that have been chosen for students to enjoy are wide-ranging: some are popular examples of teen-fiction, some are classics and some explore real-life issues such as: a divided society in Malorie Blackman's 'Noughts and Crosses', prejudice and racism in 'The Tattooist of Auschwitz' and teenage relationships in 'Face' and 'Boys Don't Cry' .

