

## Aims and rationale



- Our goal as a school is to build sustainable reading communities that encourage and support our students to read for pleasure. There is a wealth of research that links volitional reading to improved learning outcomes across the curriculum and to better mental health.
- How can we equip our students with the drive to read regularly and widely for their own enjoyment and satisfaction? As Professor Teresa Cremin points out, exciting activities like author visits are important, but research suggests that they don't have a lasting impact on students' desire to read volitionally.
- What works is intentionally planned school-wide provision, retaining reading on the school development plan year-on-year, and adopting an evidence-based approach to reading for pleasure, not an activity-oriented one. This Spotlight outlines some simple strategies which all teachers can use to help cultivate a rich and rewarding reading culture at Channing.

## Explicit messaging



- All teachers have a role to play in promoting the academic benefits of reading, in helping students to understand that reading is time well spent.
- This message will have a far greater impact if it's coming from all teachers, not just English teachers and librarians.

## Reading aloud, together



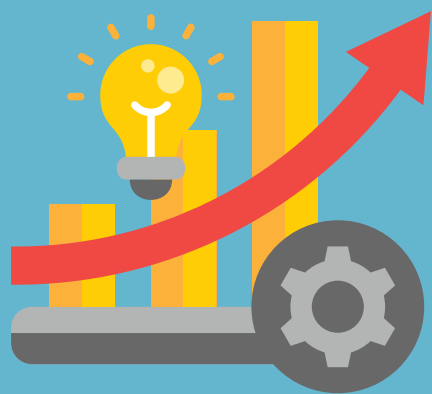
- Reading a novel or short story aloud together during form time is an excellent way to create a sense of community by building the class repertoire of 'books in common' and a shared reading history.
- [Click here for a bank of short stories to read with your form.](#)

## Modelling

- Informal book talk - try to find opportunities during the school day to ask students what they're reading, ask for recommendations, and share your own must reads. The more we talk about books with students, the more students will begin to view reading as something that enhances and enriches social interaction rather than as something that diminishes it.
- Include a 'Currently reading...' line in your email signature.
- If you do not have a form, sit somewhere visible (e.g. in reception) or join a class and read on Monday mornings.



- Share what you're reading - upload a picture of the book you're reading and a brief sentence explaining why you like it to the Trilby screens around the school and send it to [nsubramaniam@channing.co.uk](mailto:nsubramaniam@channing.co.uk) to post on the school's social media accounts.



### **Improve Your Knowledge of Young Adult Literature**

- Talking about books with young people is key to fostering their love of reading and to do this we need to be able to discuss books that are relevant to KS3.
- There are lots of YA books in our library that will have links to your subject area so please speak to Isobel and myself for recommendations.