

Making a difference

Key Stage 4 Learning Evening
Supporting Your Child with their exams



KEEP
CALM
AND
MAKE
A
LIST



	Year 11		Year 11
Autumn Term 1 2025	Y11 Data Entry 1 – reports given to students and parents during this half term Tuesday 21st October – Y11 Face to Face Parents’ Evening 4.15 to 8.00pm 14th/15th/17th Oct– 1 day Geog rivers fieldwork visit day	Spring Term 2 2026	15th and 16th April - Art 2 day practical exam – real one Y11 drama performance day date tbc by exam board
Autumn Term 2 2025	Y11 Btec C/work write up either 4th/5th or 6th/7th Nov WB 10th Nov and WB 17th Nov - Y11 Mocks in all subjects sat in main hall and sports hall Art Mock Practical 1st and 2nd Dec	Summer Term 1 2026	28th April – 30th April – MFL orals May 2023 – Real External Exams begin 7 th May until Friday 26 th June
Spring Term 1 2026	26 th /27 th /28 th Jan MFL Mock Orals 4th or 5th or 6th March GCSE Food Practical (real one) 9th - 28 th March – Y11 for all subjects in class assessments – important preparation for real exams Y11 Data Entry 2 – reports February	Summer Term 2 2026	GCSE Results Day Thursday 20 th August 2026



	Year 10		Year 10
Autumn Term 1	Year 10 students start their new option subjects December – Y10 Data Entry 1 – report will come out	Spring Term 2	
Autumn Term 2	Continue with core and new option subject work	Summer Term 1	Y10 Work Experience – 11th to 2nd May May - Year 10 Data Entry 2 report will come out for parents and students
Spring Term 1	Thursday 26 th Feb – Y10 Parents' Evening – Face to Face in school Y10 Btec C/work write up/ Btec construction practical during wb 23rd Feb and wb 2nd March	Summer Term 2	Y10 Core Subject Mocks in Main Hall/Sports Hall/Access will be confirmed when we have GCSE exam timetable but likely to be 15th to 18th June June 22nd to 3rd July – Y10 in class assessments for option subjects 6th and 7th July – Y10 food practical (1 day) 2nd and 3rd July – Y10 MFL mock orals and mock food practical (1 slot)



Reports – ATL and HW and CW scores

ATL 5-1	Attitude to learning – 5 being excellent and showing independence in work and 4 being good with 3 having developments needed to 1 being real cause for concern
HW 5-1	Homework – 5 where deadlines consistently met and excellent standard showing independence
CW 5-1	Coursework – they are given a 5-1 grading with 5 being excellent down to 1 being incomplete and not at the standard it should be
CEG	Current Expected Grade – if they keep working as they are and continue to progress this is the grade we believe they are capable of getting at end of course
TARGET	This is created based on your child’s KS2 SATs scaled score (for Y10 and Y11 CATs score as no SATs)

The Grange School KS4 Exam Boards



EXAM BOARD	SUBJECT	CODE	EXAM BOARD	SUBJECT	CODE
AQA	Art & Design	8201 QAN: 601/8088/2	AQA	Geography	8035 QAN: 601/8410/3
EDUQAS	Business Studies	C510QS QAN: 603/0305/0	AQA	History	8145 QAN: 601/8092/4
EDEXCEL	Computer Science	1CP2 QAN: 601/8058/4	EDEXCEL	Maths	1MA1 QAN: 601/4700/3
AQA	D&T: Food Tech	8585 QAN: 601/8421/8	EDUQAS	Music	C660QS QAN: 601/8131/X
AQA	Design & Technology	8552 QAN: 603/0984/2	OCR	Physical Education	J587 QAN: 601/8442/5
EDEXCEL	Drama	1DR0 QAN: 601/8491/7	AQA	Religious Studies A	8062/MA or BA QAN: 601/8400/0
AQA	English Language	8700 QAN: 601/4292/3	AQA	Science Trilogy	8464 QAN: 601/8758/X
AQA	English Literature	8702 QAN: 601/4447/6	EDEXCEL	Spanish	1SP1 QAN: 610/3469/1
EDEXCEL	French	1FR1 QAN: 610/2718/2	AQA	Urdu	8648 QAN: 603/1119/8



KS4 BTEC

Board	Syllabus title	Specification code
EDEXCEL	BTEC NEW Tech Award in Construction	RCB3 QAN: 603/7051/8
EDEXCEL	BTEC NEW Tech Award in Health & Social Care	RHS3 QAN: 60/7047/6
EDEXCEL	BTEC NEW Tech Award in Sports	RSP3 QAN: 603/7068/3

We offer **two** GCSE qualifications
AQA GCSE English Language - 8700
AQA GCSE English Literature - 8702





Course Overview

- GCSE English Language and English Literature are non-tiered exams.
- All students sit the same exam papers and can achieve any grade from 9 to 1.
- Students no longer do coursework or controlled assessment in English.



Examination structure – English Language and English Literature

English Language GCSE has two external written exams, and one internally assessed assessment.

English Literature GCSE has two external written exams.

Externally assessed exams	Internally assessed component
2 papers in English Language 2 papers in English Literature	NEA (non-examination assessment) Spoken language



AQA GCSE English Language exam structure

Externally assessed exams

AQA GCSE English Language has two exams.

- **Paper 1:** Explorations in creative reading and writing (*80 marks – 1 hour 45 minutes*)
- **Paper 2:** Writers' viewpoints and perspective (*80 marks – 1 hour 45 minutes*)

All texts in the examination will be unseen.

Internally assessed component

- Spoken Language is the endorsed spoken exam.
- This is conducted in classrooms with English teachers.
- This is submitted to the exam board in the form of audio-visual recordings.

For the award of the GCSE in English Language students must offer all three assessments.



AQA GCSE English Literature exam structure

AQA GCSE English Literature has two exams.

- **Paper 1:** Shakespeare and the 19th century novel
(64 marks – 1 hour 45 minutes)
- **Paper 2:** Modern text and poetry
(96 marks – 2 hours 15 minutes)

All assessments are closed book

AQA GCSE English Literature textbooks

We require parents to purchase the textbooks, as they are essential for the course.

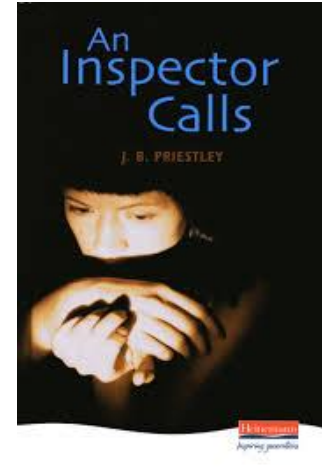
Year 10

A Christmas Carol novel – Wordsworth classic

A Christmas Carol - CGP guidebook

An Inspector Calls play – Heinemann Plays

An Inspector Calls CGP guidebook



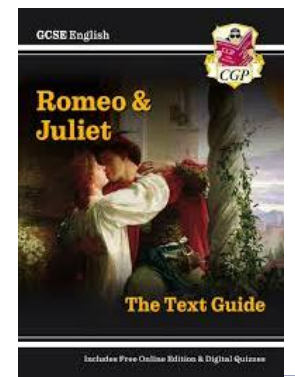
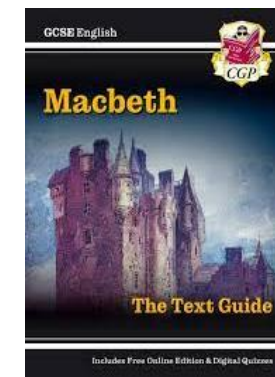
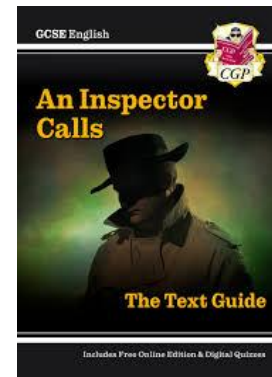
Year 11

Either

Macbeth – CGP play and guide

OR

Romeo and Juliet - CGP play and guide



AQA English Language revision resources

Online resources:

Past exam papers – www.aqa.org.uk

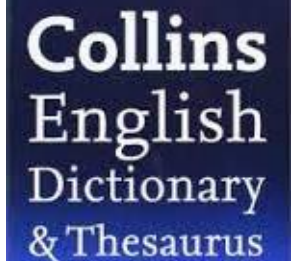
Mrbruff.com

Recommended books:

Mr Bruff's guide to English Language

York notes for GCSE – AQA practice tests

"Using a thesaurus is recommended for enhancing vocabulary."



Collins
English
Dictionary
& Thesaurus



Homework in English

- Homework is assigned to all students on a weekly basis.
- Students should dedicate approximately 60 minutes to complete each homework task.
- GCSE homework typically provides an opportunity to review and practise the skills taught in class.



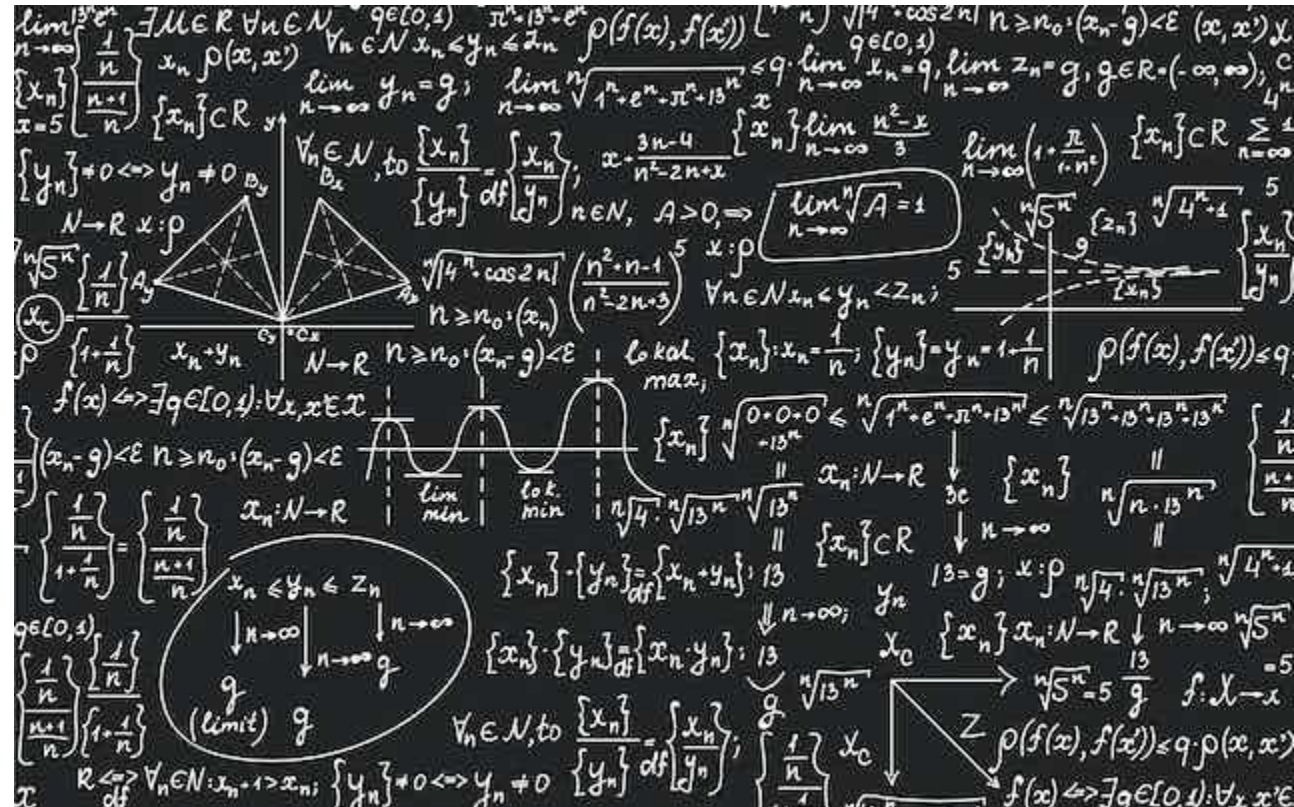
Parental support

- Discuss GCSE progress and areas for improvement with your child.
- Check which topic they are studying: Language or Literature.
- Be aware of the key ideas and vocabulary they are learning.
- Help with homework and encourage practice with past papers.
- Motivate them to read widely—both fiction and non-fiction, as it builds vocabulary, improves comprehension, and really helps in exams!

Your child's performance and progress is important to us—let's work together to help them succeed.

Edexcel GCSE Mathematics

Course Code is 1MA1





EXAMINATION OVERVIEW

- GCSE Mathematics is an **exam only** subject (Exam Board: Edexcel)
- Students are assessed in **three 90 minute papers** at the end of Y11:
 - *Paper 1*: Non-Calculator (80 marks)
 - *Paper 2*: Calculator (80 marks)
 - *Paper 3*: Calculator (80 marks)
- **Pass grade is a 4**, some sixth form options require a 5.

Both	Foundation			Both	Higher				
U	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
U	F	E	D	C	B		A	A*	



TIERED ENTRY

There are **two tiers: Foundation and Higher.**

- Foundation: Grades 1 – 5
- Higher: Grades 3 – 9

Students are streamed based on prior attainment in KS3.

- Sets 1 and 2 follow the Higher curriculum.
- Sets 3, 4 and 5 follow the Foundation curriculum

Tier	Topic area	Weighting
Foundation	Number	22 - 28%
	Algebra	17 - 23%
	Ratio, Proportion and Rates of change	22 - 28%
	Geometry and Measures	12 - 18%
	Statistics & Probability	12 - 18%
Higher	Number	12 - 18%
	Algebra	27 - 33%
	Ratio, Proportion and Rates of change	17 - 23%
	Geometry and Measures	17 - 23%
	Statistics & Probability	12 - 18%

HOMEWORK

- **Weekly** homework for all students is set on **Sparx Maths** – an online homework platform.
- In KS4, the expectation is **1 hour per week**.
- **100% for every student, every time**. This is because Sparx personalises each student's homework to their level based on their previous performances.
- Sparx is also used for students to close skills gaps. **Question Level Analysis** from summative assessments provides individual topic list and codes for students to use on Sparx.

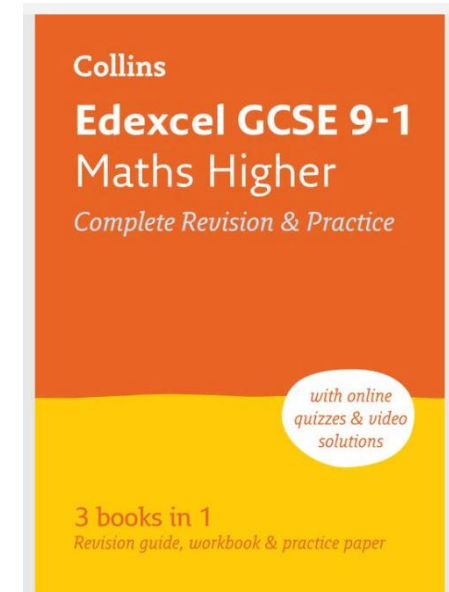
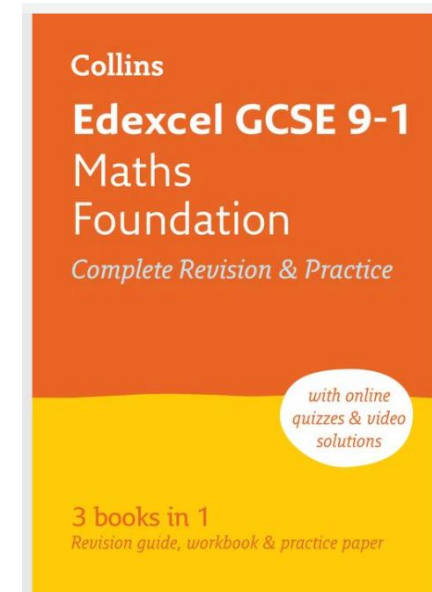
REVISION RESOURCES

Online Resources:

- Past Papers - www.mathsgenie.co.uk
- Exam Practice - www.onmaths.com
- Consolidation - www.corbettmaths.com

Recommended Revision Guide:

- Collins - 3 books in 1



PARENTAL SUPPORT

- **Be positive about mathematics** – no matter what your own experience.
- **Support your child with their home learning and revision.**
- Ensure your child has the right equipment. The right type of **scientific calculator is important**. Casio *fx-83-CTWC*
- **Talk to us and work with us.** We share a common aim of wanting your child to achieve the highest grade possible!



AQA Combined Trilogy GCSE Science

2 GCSE Grades
Course Code is 8464



The Exam Papers

- 6 papers, 2 Biology, 2 Physics and 2 Chemistry
- 1 hour 15 minutes long
- 70 marks
- Foundation or Higher Tier

Each exam weighting is 16.7 % of the overall grade

Question types range from;

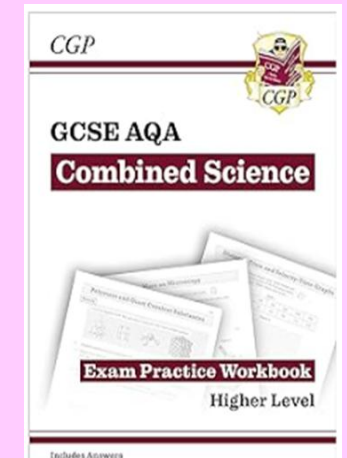
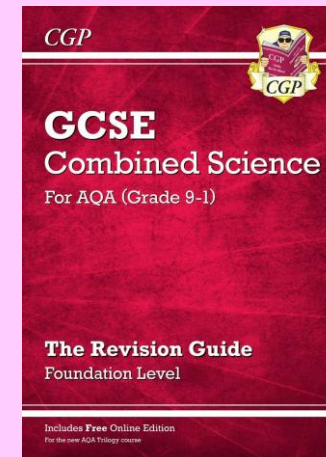
- Subject Knowledge
- Investigation Skills
- Application



17 Possible Grades for Combined Science GCSE	Higher	Foundation
9-9	9-9	
9-8	9-8	
8-8	8-8	
8-7	8-7	
7-7	7-7	
7-6	7-6	
6-6	6-6	
6-5	6-5	
5-5	5-5	5-5
5-4	5-4	5-4
4-4	4-4	4-4
4-3	4-3	4-3
3-3		3-3
3-2		3-2
2-2		2-2
2-1		2-1
1-1		1-1
U	U	U

Resources

1. Online textbook is available for all students
www.kerboodle.com (reset your password if needed)
2. CGP Revision Guide, works with the workbook
Higher- ISBN: 9781782945598
Foundation- ISBN: 9781782945604
2. CGP workbook of questions with answers at the back
Higher- ISBN: 9781789087543
Foundation- ISBN: 9781789087536
3. Seneca Learning
4. Cognito Science Lessons



FAQ: What does my child need to do to get good grades in Science?

Your child needs to be an independent learner who is ambitious and resilient especially if they are taking the Higher paper.

They need to;

- ✓ Know their **definitions**
- ✓ Work on **Essay** (must retain subject knowledge well)
- ✓ **Link ideas** and concepts across Biology, Chemistry and Science in all 6 papers
- ✓ Be good at calculations and **rearranging equations accurately-**
Higher paper
- ✓ Get above 50% in class tests
- ✓ Help them plan their revision timetable and stick to it

How can parents get involved?

- ✓ Equipment: Calculators are very important for all lessons.
- ✓ Glossary
- ✓ Homework
- ✓ Tests: Written every 6 weeks please ask your child about their progress.
- ✓ Understand why your child is taking the Higher or Foundation paper. Discuss at Parents Evening.

Thank you 😊



Wellbeing

Attendance

**Revision
timetable**

Rewards

**How can
parents help?**

**Regular
monitoring –
using satchel**

**Useful
equipment**

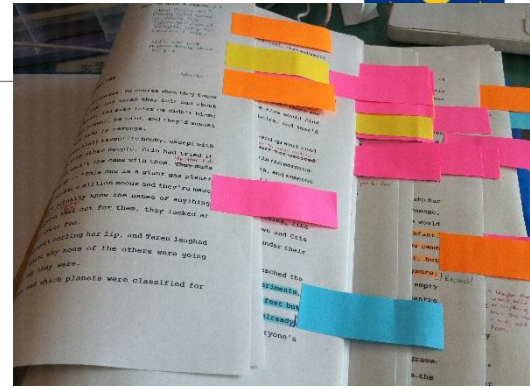
**Revision area:
Quiet Zone**

STUDY TIMETABLE

SCHOOL
FREE TIME

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
9-4	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	SCHOOL		
4-5	CHEM	BAND	BAND	ENGLISH	BAND		
5-7							
7-7:30	BIOLOGY	TRUMPET	ENGLISH		MATHS	HISTORY	
7:45-8:15	GEO	CHEM	MUSIC		ENGLISH	MUSIC	
8:30-9	HISTORY	MATHS	BIOLOGY		BIOLOGY	MATHS	
9-9:30							

Reading is not enough



They need to make brief notes either in words and/or pictures, and use other methods to help them remember.



Flashcards

Many pupils find these an effective revision aid to break down information into smaller chunks under key headings.

Pupils write a key word or topic on one side and an explanation on the other side. This allows them to read through the key points using them to trigger memory before checking accuracy of recall on the other side.

Index cards make it easy for other people to test pupil knowledge.





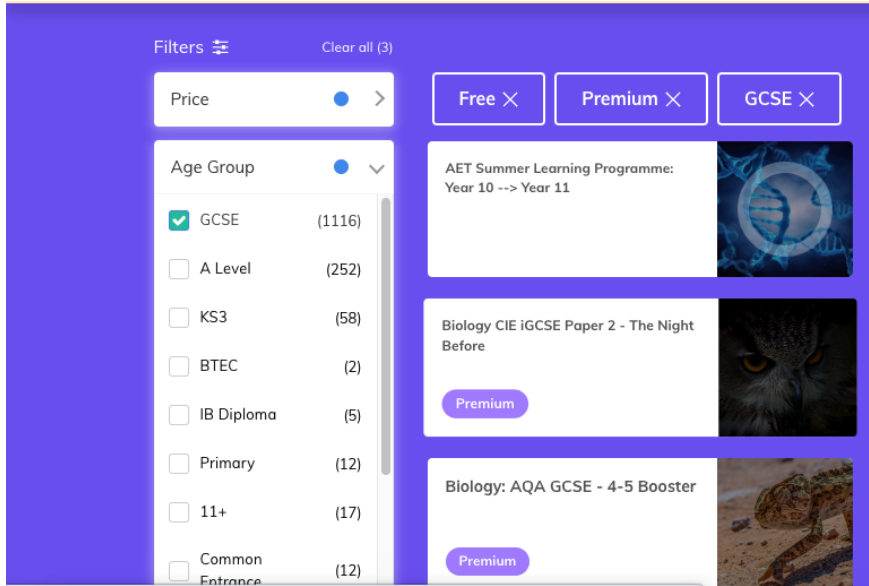
Students with a Special Educational Need

If you are a parent of a child with a Special Educational Need you will find additional support on our website

<https://www.grange.bucks.sch.uk/pastoral-care/support-for-learning>

USEFUL RESOURCES

 [Revision Strategies and Tips for Students With Additional Needs](#)



senecalearning.com

As a school we have invested in Seneca Learning premium, an online revision site.

Students can revise GCSE and A level courses, both independently and also by being set assignments by their class teacher to complete.

Parents can link to child's account – you will be sent an email to do this.

How to log into Seneca?

1. Go to the senecalearning.com website login page
1. Click onto continue with Microsoft
2. Child enters their school Email
3. Child enters their school Password



The Grange Sixth Form

STEP 1 – beginning of Nov students will have an assembly outlining the application process and subject offering at The Grange

STEP 2 – The Grange 6th Form Open Evening is – **Thursday 4th Dec** presentation to parents on 6th form and chance to speak to subjects and prospectus available

STEP 3 – The Grange Sixth Form application deadline is Jan 26th

STEP 4 - - Offer letters sent out based on grades needed

STEP 5 - 6th Form enrolment on Y11 results day and the following day

Career Team support:

Year 10 Summer Term 2026 – Options 16+ - session looking at **all** options and qualifications including technical levels and apprenticeships. Survey students to identify options being considered.

Year 10 Summer Term – start 1:1 interviews

Year 11 – Autumn Term – Large and Small Groups – Grammar Schools, Other Schools, Training Provider sessions involving a range of local destinations

Year 11 – 1:1 interviews Autumn and Spring Terms, Careers Fair

Year 11 – Spring/Summer Term follow-up interviews

Intensive support where needed to make choices, applications.

Keeping up to date using Bromcom MCAS



THE GRANGE
SCHOOL

my  at
childsschool.com

PARENT LOGIN

Email



Password



Importance of Reading

WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?

Student A Reads	Student B Reads	Student C Reads
❖ 20 minutes per day.	❖ 5 minutes per day.	❖ 1 minute per day
❖ 3,600 minutes per school year.	❖ 900 minutes per school year.	❖ 180 minutes per school year.
❖ 1,800,000 words per year.	❖ 282,000 words per year.	❖ 8,000 words per year.

We do know how hard it can be to keep young people reading but the diagram on the left shows how it can help improve vocabulary. If all students have a book in school for DEAR time it can help (we have a great library)



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