



## Reading Intervention at Copleston High School

### Word Up

#### **Did you know?**

- The average reading age of 14-16 year olds is **10 years 7 months**
- The average reading age of a GCSE exam paper is **15 years 7 months**

Reading is a skill that is necessary for every subject and reading demands get higher as students move through the school.

Students are expected to be independent and proficient readers as they get older. Reading well supports good achievement at GCSE and beyond in all subjects, including [Maths](#).

#### **What is Word Up?**

Word Up is a programme designed to help struggling or reluctant readers, focused on students in Years 7, 8 and 9. In previous groups of students it has raised reading ages by up to 2 years.

Students will work with a Personal Reading Mentor - either a member of staff, or an older student. The mentors have completed a training session on reading with struggling or reluctant readers. It may occasionally be necessary for a student to have 2 mentors due to other commitments. However, this should not have any negative impact on the progress made.

Each Word Up group runs for 10 weeks. Students are expected to attend every session (a total of 50). Students will work in the Library from 8.05am to 8.25am. This means that they will be able to attend registration and assemblies as normal. Students will not be marked late to registration as the Attendance Office will check with the Word Up register and adjust marks as necessary. If your child does receive a late mark, please contact the Word Up co-ordinator Mrs Conroy at the school.

Each student will receive a copy of the Word Up reading booklet ([link to copy of file](#)). This allows their mentor to record their reading during the school-based sessions. There is also space for the mentor to write comments and set targets for the student.

Students attending 10 sessions in school will be rewarded with a chocolate bar, and 25 sessions a drink and cake from the coffee shop. Students who complete all sessions will be invited on the Reward Trip at the end of the school year.

#### **Reading at home**

It is important that you also encourage and support your child to read at home. The reading log includes a record sheet to record the reading they do with you at home. Ideally each session should be at least 20 minutes long (the same as the school based sessions).

[Click here for some tips on reading with your child.](#)

### **How is progress measured?**

At the start of the programme, students will complete a Reading Age test. This is a decoding test, which gives guidance as to the reading age of the student. They will also discuss with their mentor their attitudes towards reading.

At the completion of the programme, students will again complete a reading age test, and discuss their attitudes to reading. This will be used to calculate the progress they have made in that 10 week period.

### **Rewards**

Each session that is completed in the Word Up reading log earns your child 25p in Amazon rewards. These will be used to purchase books from Amazon at the completion of the Word Up group. Books will be delivered to school and will be given out to students. A student attending all 50 sessions in school, and reading each night with you at home will earn £25.

