



Literacy

1. What is Literacy?

Literacy is the ability to **read, write, speak, and listen** effectively. It underpins students' access to the curriculum, achievement across subjects and long-term life opportunities. A whole-school approach to literacy is essential, since literacy is not just the responsibility of English teachers but of all staff.

2. Why Literacy is important

- **Equity:** Literacy gaps often reflect and widen social disadvantage.
- **Curriculum access:** students with weak literacy struggle across subjects.
- **Long-term outcomes:** Reading ability at age 11 strongly predicts later academic success and employability.

3. EEF Research & Guidance

The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) has published several key reports around Literacy developments, several of these strategies have been integrated into our school curriculum and Teaching and Learning approach:

'Improving Literacy in Secondary Schools'

- Literacy is a **shared responsibility** across all subjects.
- Teachers should:
 - Explicitly teach **subject-specific vocabulary**.
 - Model expert reading strategies (e.g., summarising, questioning).
 - Support structured **talk and discussion**.
 - Teach strategies for writing in their subject discipline.

'Metacognition and Self-regulated Learning'

- Embedding **metacognitive strategies** (planning, monitoring, evaluating learning) improves literacy outcomes.

Literacy at Rednock

Reading for Power

Year 7 and 8 have two lessons of 'Reading for Power' each fortnight. This curriculum, underpinned by the Accelerated Reader programme, aims to encourage, embed and promote reading for pleasure with students. Academic studies show that reading is one of the best ways to improve academic performance irrespective of subject. In these lessons, students will be introduced and encouraged to explore a wide variety of genres, text types and ways to discuss texts. With four Star Reader tests each academic year to monitor reading ability and progress, these sessions are also vital in diagnosing areas of development so that staff in all subject disciplines can adapt accordingly for your child when it comes to reading resources.

Tutor Reading Programme

At Rednock, one tutor session a week is given over to reading. This is a 'free choice' read, supported by sixth form students where appropriate.

World Book Day

Rednock strongly believes that the fun of World Book Day should not be limited to primary schools. With different themes each year, we have both Community and whole school based activities on the day.

Oracy

Students at Rednock are encouraged to follow our 3 main oracy foci to help develop their literacy skills. These are:

1. Answering verbal questions in full sentences
2. Using ABC (agree, build on, challenge) to develop whole class discussion
3. Review and upscale vocabulary

Reward Points

On Class Charts, students have the opportunity to earn themselves Literacy specific reward points in all lessons. You can receive them for reading in lessons and oracy.

Intervention

There are a number of literacy based interventions that go on at Rednock to support any area of need that your young person may have. These include: phonics, vocabulary, comprehension and grammar. These are under constant review and are organised based around both prior data and data collected within school.