



JWS/SBT/ADMIN/LRC Awareness 23-24

12 September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

LRC Reading and Parent Awareness 2023/24

We are very lucky at Crofton School, to have a popular Learning Resource centre which houses a library that focusses on reading for pleasure. Evidence shows that children who read for pleasure not only read more but also increase their reading skills and confidence more rapidly. Reading skills are vital, not only in school, but across the whole of our lives and there is a wealth of research showing the benefits of regular reading, even for as little as ten minutes every day.



Reading comes in many forms and is individual to all. Valuable reading includes both fiction and non-fiction, physical books, Ebooks, magazines, graphic novels, blogs and audiobooks etc. Our LRC is expanding the range of resources on offer to our students and I am thrilled to announce that our students will now have access to an extended choice of titles and formats via our subscription to an Ebook and Audiobook catalogue in addition to our physical book stocks. Over the coming weeks students in Year 7 and 8 will be introduced to the new interface as part of their fortnightly LRC lessons. To help accommodate this, if your child does bring a mobile device to school, please can you add the 'SORA' app via the usual means which we can then use to explore it in our first few lessons with a view to supporting reading at home.

Our students in Years 9, 10 and 11 will receive instructions on how to access the digital platform via an EduLink message and their school email when it has gone live. They are welcome to visit the LRC for any support they might need.

Once this has been introduced, Ebooks and Audiobooks will only be accessible in lessons via LRC laptops/PCs. Reading will not be permitted in school on mobile phones. We would therefore continue to recommend that students have a physical book with them to be able to meet the equipment expectations and in case of technological interruptions.

Some resources in the LRC are classed as "Young Adult" meaning that the plot, setting or characters are created and written using more mature and contemporary language in order to appeal to teenagers. These books may include swearing, violence, sexual situations, diverse characters and complicated storylines that teenagers face in real life every day.

Our young adult physical titles are clearly labelled with a sticker on the spine and talked about in depth as part of the introduction to the LRC at the start of each year. These books are available for all age groups to read however, we respect your right as parents to judge the maturity of your reader. If you ***do not wish*** for your child to borrow our young adult titles, or have access to our digital platform, please email sbryant@croftonschool.co.uk so that we can mark their record accordingly.

Please note, as we are an open space, students are able to borrow

books without a member of staff present. We therefore strongly recommend discussing your choice with your child so they are aware.

To ensure that the resources in the LRC are relevant and appealing, we do ask that students return books on time and in a suitable condition. Regular reminders are sent out to student email accounts for books that are overdue. We do, therefore, expect that any lost or damaged items are replaced. When this occurs, a letter will be sent home requesting either a replacement or a contribution of £5. If a lost item is paid for and then subsequently returned, a refund will be given providing the resource is in a suitable condition.

Finally, we do accept donations of relevant and appealing books for our library stock, but please do contact Mrs Bryant in the first instance.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Winkles
Faculty Leader of English
and Film Studies / SLT

Mrs S Bryant
LRC Manager

