



# Success story

## Brayton College, Selby

### School Profile

|                   |     |
|-------------------|-----|
| Number of pupils  | 900 |
| EAL               | tbc |
| Free School Meals | tbc |

Situated approximately one mile from the historic market town of Selby in North Yorkshire, the village of Brayton has a large commuter population.

Opened in 1979, Brayton High School was awarded Technology College status in 2001, when its name changed to Brayton College. The College serves approximately 900 pupils aged 11-16, delivering the full National Curriculum to pupils of all abilities.

The College have been using Renaissance Learning's Accelerated Reader program since May 2005, after being chosen to take part in a pilot study of the program by the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust, and can now really see the evidence of its impact on the pupil's ability to learn.

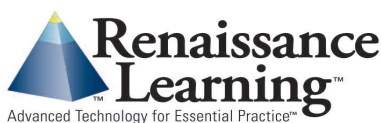
Jean Corson, LRC Manager at Brayton College, explains: "We began in a small way with a pilot of 30, but now run Accelerated Reader with all Year 7 groups - over 120 pupils. The Learning Resource Centre is the hub of Accelerated Reading. Each tutor group has been allocated one morning every week in order to register in the LRC. This gives the pupils access to the books and computers on a regular basis. Of course, pupils can also use the LRC in their own time, and many of them do so - especially when they realise the prizes are awarded at the end of term!"

One of the keys to the success of Accelerated Reader is the promotion of reading in subjects other than English or only in the LRC, as Jean observes: "Accelerated Reader is an accepted Year 7 project, with pupils reading in all curriculum areas - even P.E. Year 7s always have a book from the LRC with them, and we have seen a huge increase in borrower figures, but most rewarding is hearing them say just how much they enjoy reading." The introduction of Accelerated Reader has also raised the profile of the LRC Manager within the College.

Many Secondary schools and Colleges using Accelerated Reader comment on the

Continued overleaf

For more information on Accelerated Reader please call FREEphone  
**0800 917 4447** or visit [www.renlearn.co.uk](http://www.renlearn.co.uk)



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# Success story

## Brayton College, Selby *continued...*

important role it plays in easing the transition of new pupils from Primary schools, as Jean notes: *"It has also played a part in helping pupils from small rural primary schools to settle in and cope with 'big school' life."*

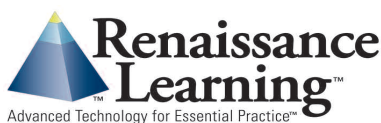
The enthusiasm the staff and pupils at Brayton College have for Accelerated Reader is also shared by the parents, as Jean recalls an email the father of one pupil sent to the Head Teacher: *"He insists on reading for half an hour before he goes to bed...he's read more books since September than he has in four years."* Another parent remarked: *"Basically, he's gone from little interest in books, to 'can't get enough of them', in three weeks!"*

Jean adds: *"Accelerated Reader is proving to be a huge success at Brayton College and having recently launched Home Connect, which provides parents with progress information, we are keen to hear their opinions in our forthcoming 'Student Review Day'."*

Jean also observes that the group using Accelerated Reader in the original 2005 pilot seemed to achieve better SATs results than others at the College, but acknowledges that a number of initiatives are in place to improve overall academic performance. However, in addition to raising literacy standards, the pupils using the program also seem to have improved Science SATs results.

Pupils and teachers alike at Brayton College are full of praise for Accelerated Reader, as these Year 7 pupils demonstrate: *"It has helped me a lot, and I mean a lot. Thank you,"* says one. *"The best thing about Accelerated Reader is that it makes me like reading more and helps me learn more vocabulary,"* says a second. *"The best bit about Accelerated Reader is finding out how many words we have read,"* concludes another Year 7 pupil.

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AR-Secondary-Raising Standards

