



# Success story

## Hockerill Anglo-European College, Bishops-Stortford

### School Profile

Number of pupils	737
EAL	tbc
Free School Meals	tbc

Hockerill Anglo-European College in Bishops Stortford, one of the UK's first specialist languages colleges, introduced Renaissance Learning's Accelerated Reader program to its pupils from English and German backgrounds, as well as Italian, Japanese and Chinese.

As one of the Department for Education and Skills' leading-edge schools, Hockerill has a solid reputation. The challenge for the school was to meet the needs of its gifted and talented pupils, as well as some students for whom English is their second language.

The school implemented Accelerated Reader in 2001. Members of the Parents' Association with special needs children held fundraisers to add to money from the library and special needs department.

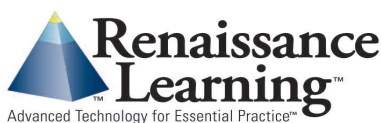
The system is mainly used by Years 7 and 8, with 9 also having access. There are approximately 110 pupils in each year group in Years 7, 8 and 9. Barbara Shellard, Librarian, said: *"The English Department had the idea of Years 7 and 8 using Accelerated Reader in the fortnightly library lesson. This lesson works on the basis of pupils borrowing two fiction and two non-fiction books, one of which has to be from the Accelerated Reader scheme."*

The school has six teachers using Accelerated Reader. Barbara gives out book tokens to those pupils who have taken and passed the most quizzes.

*"Pupils took to the system from the outset, liking the mixture of technology and competition,"* said Barbara.

This increased interest in reading has led to noticeable improvements in pupils' reading and comprehension skills. Teachers have found it easy to link the system with class reading, and keep track of each individual's progress. The Head of English has seen reading levels go up in line with pupils' enthusiasm and interest.

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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