



Success story

West Kirby Residential School, Wirral, Merseyside

School Profile

Number of pupils	100
EAL	tbc
Free School Meals	tbc

Debbie Baird, School Librarian at West Kirby Residential School in Wirral, Merseyside has been using Renaissance Learning's Accelerated Reader program since May 2007.

Debbie says: "At present a whole school approach to reading has been implemented from primary through to post 16, but Accelerated Reader has been most successful with primary pupils and Years 7, 8 and 9."

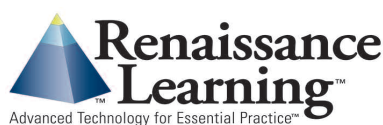
The program enables you to assess your pupils' reading age in 10 minutes and then guide them to a selection of approved books, at their correct reading level. This gives your pupils the opportunity to select books they enjoy reading, while improving comprehension and encouraging reading growth.

Debbie continues to say that, "Statistics have shown that 70% of all our pupils have improved their reading abilities since we have been using Accelerated Reader. More than 10% of the pupils have made significant improvements, more than one years' progress in just five months!"

"In school we all feel that we have benefited from using the Accelerated Reader program as it offers a structured choice of reading material. The software ensures that pupils are always reading at their correct level - providing instant feedback from quizzes, which is an excellent motivational tool. Children are reading more and questioning what they are reading. There is now a reading culture in the school, which is accepted and embraced. The majority of pupils read during morning registration, which has become a great reading habit within the school. We have also found that struggling readers are now making big improvements and are starting to actually enjoy reading. It is proving to be extremely beneficial; the data provided by the Accelerated Reader program is excellent evidence, and can be used at reviews and parents evenings. Accelerated Reader provides a good structure to

Continued overleaf

For more information on Accelerated Reader please call FREEphone
0800 917 4447 or visit www.renlearn.co.uk



Renaissance Learning UK Ltd.
32 Harbour Exchange Square
London E14 9GE



Success story

West Kirby Residential School, Wirral, Merseyside *continued...*

library lessons and pupils reading levels are improving as a result."

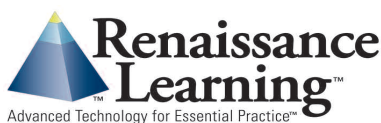
Debbie has noticed that library circulation has improved quite significantly since using the program. The number of library loans in total was 998 from May to December 2007, in comparison with 671 for the same period the previous year. The percentage of boys loaning books has also improved. A total of 74.18% of the loans from May to December 2007 were made by male pupils, compared with only 62.70% in the same period the previous year.

Debbie says: *"The computer-based quizzes have provided brilliant motivation to our pupils. Many pupils, including some who were previously reluctant readers are now eager to read and finish books quickly so that they can quiz and gain instant feedback of their results. As an additional incentive we have offered all pupils, who score 80% or more in their quiz, the opportunity to take part in a draw to win one of three book voucher prizes, which is proving to be very popular."*

In relation to struggling readers, Debbie continues to say: *"One pupil in particular had a very low reading age and became very embarrassed if he could not read a word or made a mistake, this would lead to him refusing to read at all. Accelerated Reader has helped to raise his self-esteem and although he still needs help with books at his level, he can now read easier books independently."*

While the pupils say, *"Accelerated Reader helps us to read, and we like to do the quizzes!"*, Debbie concludes: *"The best thing about Accelerated Reader is having an accurate reading age, which is updated regularly and ensures that pupils are always choosing books at their correct reading level."*

For more information on Accelerated Reader please call FREEphone
0800 917 4447 or visit www.renlearn.co.uk



Renaissance Learning UK Ltd.
32 Harbour Exchange Square
London E14 9GE

AR-Primary/Secondary-raising standards

