



READING
FOR PLEASURE



The Open
University

KS3 Reading Schools Programme: Building a Culture of Reading

2024 - 2025



Do you want to:

- Improve pupils' reading attainment, pleasure and wellbeing?
- Respond positively to the barriers to reading for pleasure for *all* pupils?
- Increase reading across subject departments?
- Strengthen the capacity of reading leadership through coaching?

The OU's year-long KS3 Reading Schools Programme will enable you to build a rich reading culture that will impact on pupil's autonomy and agency as readers. Internationally, evidence shows that pupils who read regularly and widely benefit from higher attainment, richer vocabulary, wider background knowledge and enhanced wellbeing.

Reading is the gateway to almost all learning.

It is a vital life skill: reading to learn, to expand horizons and for pleasure.

Amanda Spielman
HMCI, 2022

'Engagement in reading is strongly correlated with reading performance and is a mediator of gender or socio-economic status'

OECD, 2021



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About the programme

The highly successful *Reading Schools Programme: Building a Culture of Reading* is aligned to the National Curriculum, the Reading Framework (DfE, 2023), and the Education Endowment Foundation schools' guide to implementation.

The blended programme builds the skills of English department staff and librarians to enable sustained school development in Reading for Pleasure (RfP). It combines research evidence, rigour and tailored support.

This is a unique opportunity to develop wider staff knowledge and practice for RfP that impacts upon all KS3 students, particularly the lowest attaining 20%.

Core features

- Evidence-informed, highly practical and collaborative.
- Baseline data collection and analysis (KS3 surveys, reviews and more).
- A focus on the impact on pupils' engagement and attainment in reading.
- Bespoke support and coaching for programme leaders (7 sessions and 4 tutorials online)
- Wider staff/interdepartmental training (CPD conference).
- SLT and Change Team sessions.
- Dedicated website and RfP school improvement case studies.
- KS3 Book Box and core professional text.

The OU Team

Professor Teresa Cremin (OU and DfE Reading Expert), Dr Helen Hendry, Debbie Thomas, Stephanie Hilder and Kelly Ashley (OU), Bennie Kara and Rachel Ayres.

Cost

£2,400 per school. Cost includes online conference for wider staff, led by the OU team.

Additional fee for face-to-face conference TBA.

Total includes 35 hours of OU contact, including coaching support, book box and resources to implement the programme.

Key features

- The development of an **Implementation Team** to drive analysis and action. This includes representatives from selected subject departments, including English.
- Year-long cycle of support. This includes **exploring** baseline data (staff and pupils), auditing and understanding the evidence; **preparing** for change and identifying aims; **delivering** change, implementing and monitoring; **evaluating** and measuring impact; **sustaining** and embedding.
- **Coaching conversations** are used as tools for reflection and evaluation. They build reading leadership capacity, influence and impact.

Find out more

Email WELS-Reading-For-Pleasure@open.ac.uk
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