HEBBURN
Comprehensive School
WORK HARD | BE KIND | ASPIRE

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD WITH READING AT HOME



WHY READING MATTERS

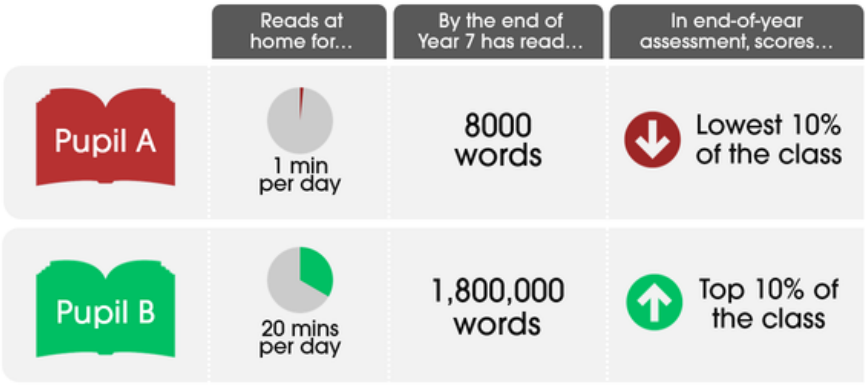
Research tells us that reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a child's future success. It is a better predictor of success than household income or parents' level of education (OECD, 2002)

According to a 2023 study, 18% of adults aged 16-65 in England (6.6 million people) are functionally illiterate. Adults with the lowest levels of literacy are more likely to have worse health and even reduced life expectancy (NIHR, 2002)

Children with reading difficulties are at greater risk of developing mental health problems later in life, including depression, anxiety, behavioural problems, anger and aggression (Boyes et al., 2016)

Reading for as little as 6 minutes a day can reduce stress levels by 60%. Reading was found to be more effective at reducing stress than listening to music, drinking a cup of tea, going for a walk or playing video games! (Mindlab International, 2009)

Reading for 20 minutes a day can be the difference between scoring in the top 10% of the class and scoring in the lowest 10% of the class:



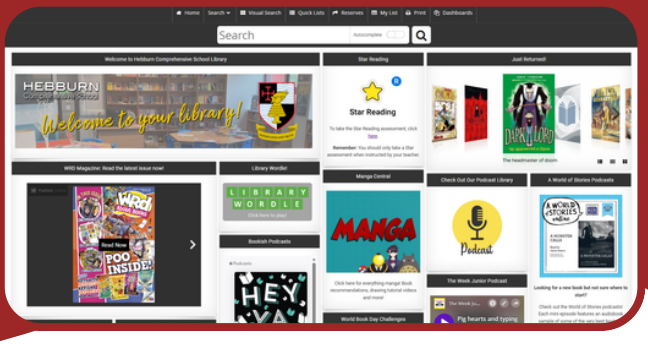
Anderson, R.C., Wilson, P.T., Fielding, L.G. (1988), "Growth in Reading and How Children Spend Their Time Outside of School," Reading Research Quarterly, 23(3), pp. 285–303.

OUR LIBRARY WEBPAGE

Our library webpage allows pupils to view all of the books and physical resources available in our school library. Pupils can search for books, write reviews, place reservations and create reading lists.

To view our catalogue, scan the QR code or go to:
uk.accessit.online/hbb00

Scan me to visit the HCS library webpage



JOIN YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY FOR *FREE*

Joining your public library is free and can be done in person or online. Once registered, you'll be able to borrow books from your local library AND get 24/7 access to hundreds of eBooks, audiobooks and online magazines.

Scan me to register with South Tyneside Libraries

The libraries local to South Tyneside are:

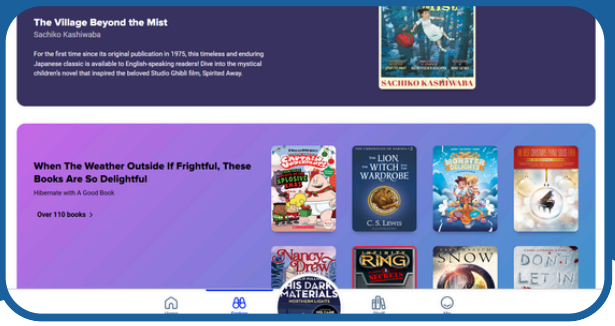
- Boldon Lane Library
- Cleadon Park Library
- East Boldon Library
- Jarrow Focus Library
- Library@Hebburn Central
- Primrose Library
- The Word
- Whitburn Library



OUR eLIBRARY: SORA

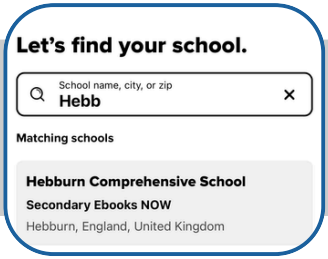
Sora is our school's free digital online library, which pupils can access 24/7. It has over 6,400 ebooks, audiobooks, comics and magazines. It is completely free to use and can be accessed by visiting the website (**www.soraapp.com**) or downloading the app on your smartphone / tablet.

Scan me to visit the Sora website

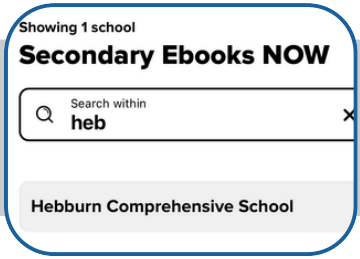


HOW TO LOG IN

You can log in to the Sora website or app by following these 3 easy steps:



Step 1: Search for our school.



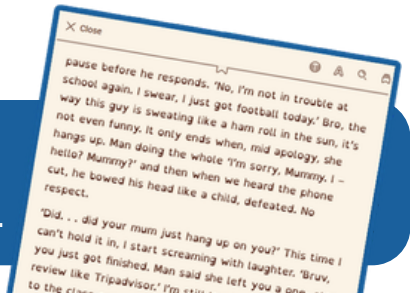
Step 2: It will take you to our Secondary Ebooks NOW account, where you will need to search for our school again.



Step 3: Sign in using your normal school email address and password

DYSLEXIA FRIENDLY BOOKS

Most ebooks on Sora include dyslexia-friendly features such as different fonts, adjustable text sizes, and tinted overlays.



TOP 10 TIPS FOR BUILDING POSITIVE READING HABITS

1.  **Establish a reading routine** with a consistent time where your child will read. (After dinner, before bed, etc.)

2.  **Consider introducing a tech curfew.** All gadgets off an hour before bed. This way reading isn't in competition with screen time.

3.  **Share a story together.** We connect with reading more deeply when we're able to share it with someone. Discuss the book together, take turns reading aloud, and help your child with any tricky words. You'll be itching to read the next instalment together!

4.  **Lead by example – be seen reading!** If your child sees ***you*** reading, they're more likely to do it themselves. Set aside 15 minutes for the whole family to read books together.

5.  **Provide a distraction-free environment.** If home is too busy / noisy, remember there's always the school or public library.

6.  **Allow choice.** Let your child read what ***they*** want to read – not what ***you*** think they should be reading.

7.  **Encourage your child to try comics, graphic novels, manga and dyslexia-friendly books**. They're a great stepping stone to full-length novels, and create a sense of achievement.

8.  **Take advantage of our school's eLibrary, Sora.** There's over 6,400 ebooks, audiobooks and magazines to read online or via the app!

9.  **Don't make reading a punishment.** Frame reading in a positive light and offer encouragement when your child engages with it.

10. 

Encourage your child to complete their Sparx Homework. 30 mins of focused reading a week – that's less than 5 minutes a day!

Short Reads for *Developing Readers*



Dyslexia Friendly

Sci-Fi | Shock Twists

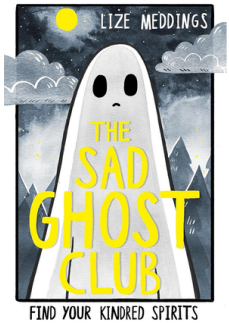
When Claire's inventor dad reveals his secret creation, she is horrified by what he has built and faces a difficult decision: can she bring herself to destroy it?



Graphic Novel

Super Short | Sci-Fi

In 2417, three teenagers living in a sheltered dome discover a world beyond their home where evil robots have taken over Earth.



Graphic Novel

Friendship | Loneliness

Two lonely ghosts meet at a party and discover the power of friendship, finding comfort in knowing they're not alone in feeling different.



Dyslexia Friendly

Sci-Fi | Suspense

When Nancy's parents start acting strangely, she and her friends uncover a sinister mystery in their town in this Stranger Things-esque adventure.



Super Short

Horror | Series

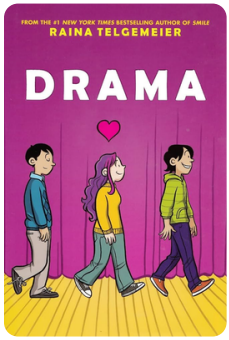
A mysterious school bus takes children on terrifying journeys where ordinary school trips turn into creepy adventures full of monsters and unexpected horrors.



Dyslexia Friendly

Horror | Suspense

A chilling collection of interconnected short stories where a class's spooky winter tales begin to feel frighteningly real.



Graphic Novel

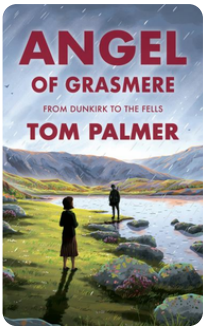
Sci-Fi | Shock Twists

Callie loves theatre and is determined to create amazing sets for her school musical, but backstage chaos, new friendships and confusing crushes make this school show full of drama.



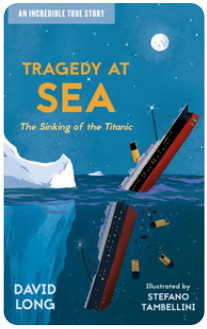
Foster Care | Anger | Dyslexia Friendly

When Charlene's foster brother destroys her treasured knitting, her anger lands her in trouble with the law. Can she find a way to take responsibility and protect her future?



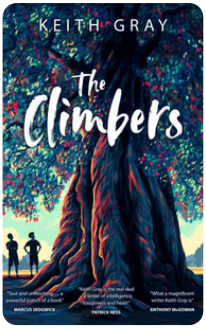
Historical Fiction | Dyslexia Friendly | War

During the Second World War, Tarn and her friends search the Lake District hills for signs of a Nazi invasion, while mysterious acts of kindness give their village hope.



Non-Fiction | History | Dyslexia Friendly

Discover the story of the Titanic, from its construction and maiden voyage to the disaster that shocked the world, in this illustrated non-fiction account.



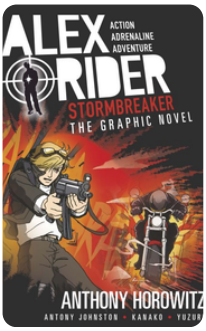
Dyslexia Friendly | Friendship | Rivalry

Sully is the village's best tree climber, until newcomer Nottingham challenges his status and makes him question what matters most: winning or friendship.



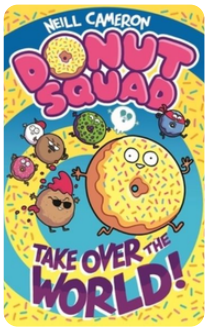
Dyslexia Friendly | Historical | Myths

Sent from a workhouse to a cruel cotton mill, Bess dreams of escape, but rumours of a mysterious creature in the millpond make her question what lurks beneath the water.



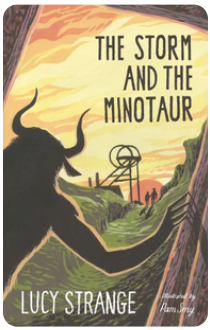
Action | Spies | Graphic Novel

When 14-year-old Alex Rider discovers his uncle was a spy, he's recruited by MI6 and sent on a dangerous mission to stop a sinister billionaire.



Graphic Novel | Comedy | Adventure

Meet Sprinkles and his donut squad, who have big plans for world domination — but their arch-enemies, the Bagel Battalion, have other ideas!



Dyslexia Friendly | Historical | Myths

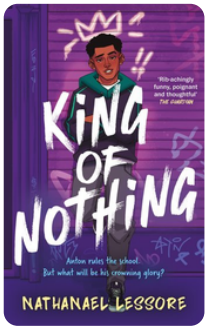
When nine-year-old George is forced to work in a coal mine, a sudden flood traps him underground, where a mysterious figure may hold the key to his survival.

Stories to Hook *Reluctant Readers*



Verse | School Life | Growing Up

As Nate starts Year 7, he navigates new friendships, school bullies and family challenges while trying to manage his anger and find his place in the world.



School Life | Identity | Comedy

Anton's ideas about what it means to be a man are challenged when an unlikely new friendship makes him question his behaviour and see the world differently.



School Life | Choices | Friendship

As Fred prepares to start secondary school, he must make big decisions in this interactive story, where the reader's choices lead to eight possible endings.



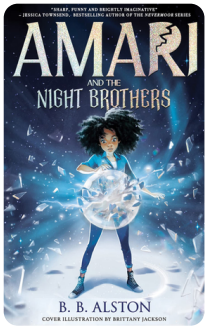
Ghosts | Mystery | Suspense

When Aveline discovers a strange book about local ghosts, she becomes drawn into a chilling mystery that brings her face to face with something sinister.



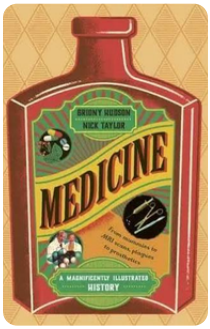
Movies | Adventure | Sci-Fi

When Lucas and his friends discover their cinema is more than it seems, they're pulled into a real-life adventure with a Jumanji-style twist.



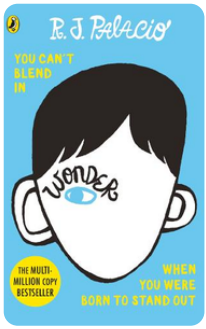
Magic | Mystery | Adventure

When her brother goes missing, Amari discovers a secret supernatural world where she must prove herself to uncover the truth.



Non-Fiction | Medicine | History

From ancient remedies to modern medical breakthroughs, explore the fascinating history of medicine through colourful illustrations, comics and timelines.



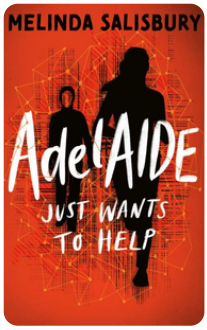
Kindness | Empathy | Friendship

Born with a facial difference, Auggie starts school for the first time, discovering the challenges of fitting in and the power of friendship and kindness.



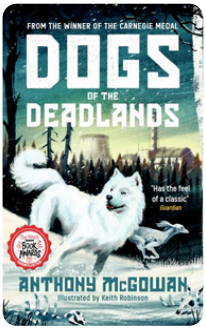
Mental Health | Friendship | School Life

A moving story about a boy whose OCD makes everyday life feel overwhelming, as he navigates friendship, family and the challenges of starting secondary school.



Thriller | AI | Social Media

Freya dreams of becoming an influencer, but when her home-assistant robot AdelAIDE's advice goes too far, things spiral out of control.



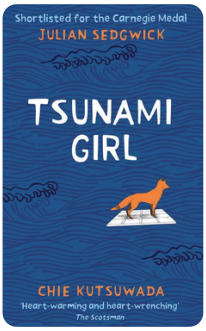
Survival | Loyalty | Hope

When a nuclear disaster forces people to flee Chernobyl, abandoned dogs must learn to survive in the wild in this gripping story of loyalty, loss and hope.



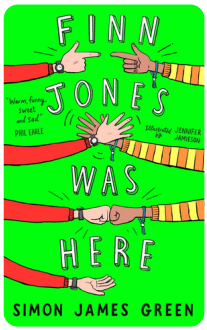
Historical Fiction | Legends | Mystery

As war breaks out, Pet must uncover the truth behind a mystery threatening her family, while ancient legends and dangerous secrets haunt her lighthouse home.



Grief | Resilience | Hope

Part manga, part chapter book, this moving story follows Yuki as she tries to rebuild her life after surviving the 2011 Japanese tsunami.



Grief | Friendship | Comedy

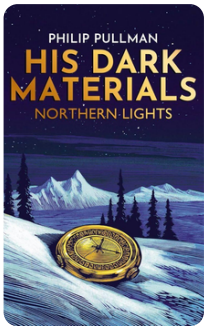
When Eric receives a series of mysterious messages from his best friend Finn, he's drawn into a prank-filled scavenger hunt that challenges him to be brave and see things differently.



Football | Family | Determination

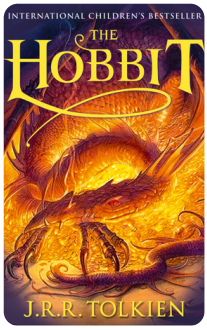
Budi dreams of becoming a Real Madrid football star, but when one unlucky kick lands him in debt to Jakarta's most dangerous gang lord, his family's lives are at risk.

Stories to Stretch *Confident Readers*



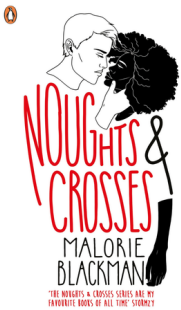
Fantasy | Mystery | Adventure

Lyra journeys into the frozen North to uncover a dangerous secret involving missing children and a mysterious substance.



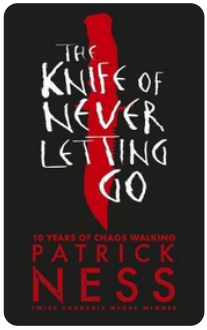
Fantasy | Quests | Classic

Bilbo Baggins joins a dangerous quest to help a group of dwarves reclaim their treasure from a dragon, in this prequel to the *Lord of the Rings*.



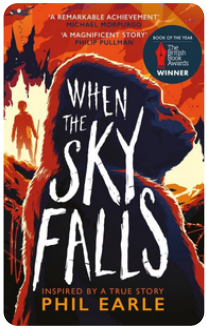
Inequality | Prejudice | Identity

In a society divided by race and power, Sephy and Callum must navigate prejudice and forbidden love as tensions threaten to tear them apart.



Dystopia | Survival | Secrets

In a world where everyone can hear each other's thoughts, Todd discovers a shocking secret and is forced to flee, with danger closing in at every turn.



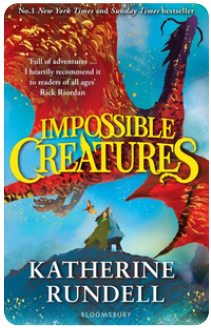
Historical Fiction | Courage | War

During the Second World War, a troubled boy is sent to live with a gruff woman who cares for a fierce silverback gorilla, and an unlikely friendship changes them both.



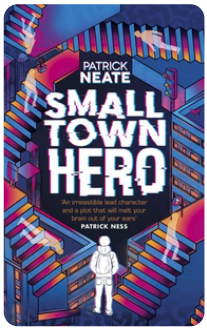
Magic | Mystery | Adventure

Evacuated to the countryside during WW2, young Willie finds kindness and friendship with an elderly man, beginning to overcome a troubled past.



Fantasy | Adventure | Mythical Creatures

When Christopher discovers a hidden archipelago inhabited by mythical creatures, he joins Mal on a dangerous quest to save their magical world.



Grief | Video Games | Sci-Fi

A thirteen-year-old boy develops the ability to create alternate pasts, presents and futures after his father is killed in an accident.



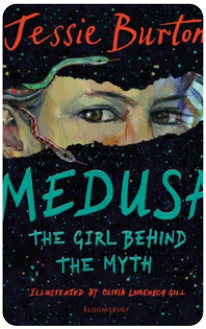
Dystopia | Survival | Rebellion

In a dystopian world, Katniss volunteers to take her sister's place in a televised fight for survival, where every decision could be deadly.



Horror | Mystery | Werewolves

In a town where adults turn into werewolves every full moon, Sel and his friends must investigate a sinister mystery before things spiral out of control.



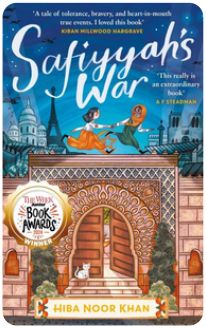
Mythology | Power | Identity

A beautifully illustrated retelling of Greek myth that reveals the girl behind the monster's legend, as Medusa's isolated world changes when Perseus arrives on her island.



Magic | Adventure | As seen on TV

When a curse turns Sophie into an old woman, she seeks help from the mysterious wizard Howl, whose magical moving castle hides unexpected secrets.



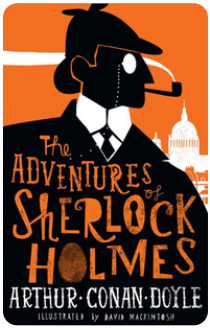
Historical Fiction | Courage | Friendship

When Nazi-occupied Paris becomes increasingly dangerous, 11-year-old Safiyyah finds the courage to help protect Jewish neighbours and guide them to safety.



Fantasy | Origami | Adventure

In a world of floating cities and flying ships, Kurara discovers she can bring paper figures to life and is swept into a dangerous adventure involving magic and secrets.



Classic | Mystery | Crime

Join Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson as they solve baffling mysteries in Victorian London, using sharp observation and brilliant deduction to uncover the truth.