



# THE JAMES YOUNG HIGH SCHOOL



BGE Information Evening  
Supporting your child with  
literacy



# Parent/ carer engagement



Research shows that family engagement has a bigger influence on children's attainment than other social, economic and family background factors



Influence on pupil achievement:



- Home: 60-80%
- School: 20-40%





# What is literacy?

The literacy framework has 3 areas:

- Reading
- Writing
- Talk and Listening



## Why is literacy important?

Literacy is important in all areas of learning. Being able to read and write accurately, to listen carefully and to talk clearly about ideas will increase the opportunities for young people in all aspects of life and will allow them to participate fully in learning and later in a work environment.



# Confidence

- Confidence in reading  
(especially unfamiliar texts and words)
- Confidence in writing  
(different genres and technical accuracy)
- Confidence in talking and listening  
(expressing ideas in front of others)



## Literacy teaching

- In English classes pupils learn how to develop their literacy skills. They use the feedback pathways to reflect on their strengths and areas to improve.
- It is also the responsibility of all teachers throughout the school to promote literacy development.



## Supporting Reading S3

We are excited to let you know that this year we will be delivering the **Accelerated Reader** programme with all S3 pupils.

As you know, literacy is an invaluable skill across the entire school curriculum and beyond, and the best way to increase literacy is to **read widely and often.**



# Supporting Reading

- Pupils will be given their login details for Accelerated Reader and will sit a test that measures their reading age and provides a suitable book level.
- Reading is assessed termly and teachers track improvements.





# Supporting Reading

- They will then be able to look for a book in our school library that matches that level.
- Of course, if they want to read their own, that is no problem at all – they can use [www.arbookfind.co.uk](http://www.arbookfind.co.uk) to check the level of their chosen book.



# Supporting Reading

- What should pupils read?
- Anything! Put a focus on reading for pleasure - children will be more excited about reading if they're reading something that motivates them.
- The Scottish Book Trust website has [hundreds of books lists](#) for teenagers of all abilities.



# Supporting Reading

- Make reading fun.
- Time for reading away from other distractions.
- Read anything – magazines, adverts, recipes, leaflets, newspapers...
- Encourage discussions of what they have read/ enjoyed.
- Use the library/ give books as presents.
- 80 minutes a week



# Preparation for Nationals

Reading from newspaper articles

# The Guardian



**THE SCOTSMAN**  
SCOTLAND'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER



# What are we looking for?

We assess reading based on three fundamental areas:

- Understanding
- Analysis
- Evaluation



# What are we looking for?

- Understanding focuses on what the writer is saying.
- Analysis focuses on how the writer says it.
- Evaluation focuses on how well the writer says it.

## **Main Idea: Guided Reading Skills**

Identify the main idea of the text and be able to justify their answer with reference to the text

## **Inference**

Discussing the 5 Ws: Who, What, When, Where and Why in relation to the given text.

## **Author's Purpose**

Identifying why the writer created the text.

So what? What is the point of the text?

## **Vocabulary Questions**

Give / explain the meaning of words in context of the passage



# Immersive Reader

- Works on word documents and some webpages.
- Can read the document
- Can change the colour
- Can give pictorial definitions of words
- Can translate words

SQA do not use this resource



# Vocabulary



# How can you develop your child's vocabulary?

1. Reading Non-Fiction texts such as articles from broadsheet newspapers
2. Encouraging reading a variety of texts regularly
3. Playing word games



# Reading non-fiction

- Advertisements
- Reviews
- Newspaper articles
- Information leaflets
- Magazine articles





# Games (Wordle)

## Wordle

E	N	J	O	Y
O	T	H	E	R
W	O	R	D	Y
G	A	M	E	S
T	O	D	A	Y

# Games (Shiritori)



## Last Letter First Letter

Monkey - Yellow - Water - River -  
Run - No - Orange - End - Dinosaur -  
Red - Dog - Give - Elephant - Ten -  
Next - Tea - Afternoon - Need -  
Drink - Kangaroo - On - Nose - Eggs -  
Shape - Ear - Rainbow - Walk - Kiss



# Games (How many words?)

How many words can you make from these letters? You cannot use a letter more than once in each word (unless it appears twice in the grid).



Writing



# Supporting Writing

We assess writing based on a number of areas.

- Technical accuracy (spelling and punctuation)
- Attention to purpose
- Vocabulary
- Structure
- Length
- Use of literary techniques





# Supporting Writing

- Encourage your child to collect and use words that interest them – from articles, books, websites- all this will boost vocabulary and spelling
- Use dictionaries to find out and discuss the meaning of words – good dictionary apps are available
- Encourage you child to write: letters, emails...



# Supporting Writing

- Encourage word games and puzzles – scrabble, word searches, hangman...
- Encourage your child to proof read their work



# Supporting Writing

Learning to write in lots of different formats and styles will put them in good stead for school.



# Supporting Writing

## Reviews

Why not try writing a review of a great book, film or TV programme you have read/watched together recently?





# Supporting Writing



Describe a scene



Whether it's a photo of family members, a picture in a magazine or a painting on the wall – ask your child to describe it in words. They could even write a story based on the image.





# Supporting Writing



## Diary Writing



Writing a personal diary not only helps to get children into the habit of writing but is also a great way of letting out emotions and making sense of their world.





# Supporting Writing

## Writing Together

Why not try writing a story together – one paragraph at a time. This can also be a fun game for them to play with friends, especially when the story escalates into a wild and wacky adventure! Think the consequences game but with writing instead of pictures.



# Preparation for Nationals



➤ Discursive/ persuasive writing



➤ Personal/ creative writing







# Supporting Talk and Listening Skills

- Make time for your child
- Encourage your child to talk more/ longer conversations
- Ask questions/ model being a good listener
- Talk about their learning
- Watch films/ programmes together – ask about what they have been listening to/ ask them to summarise the key ideas
- Play board games



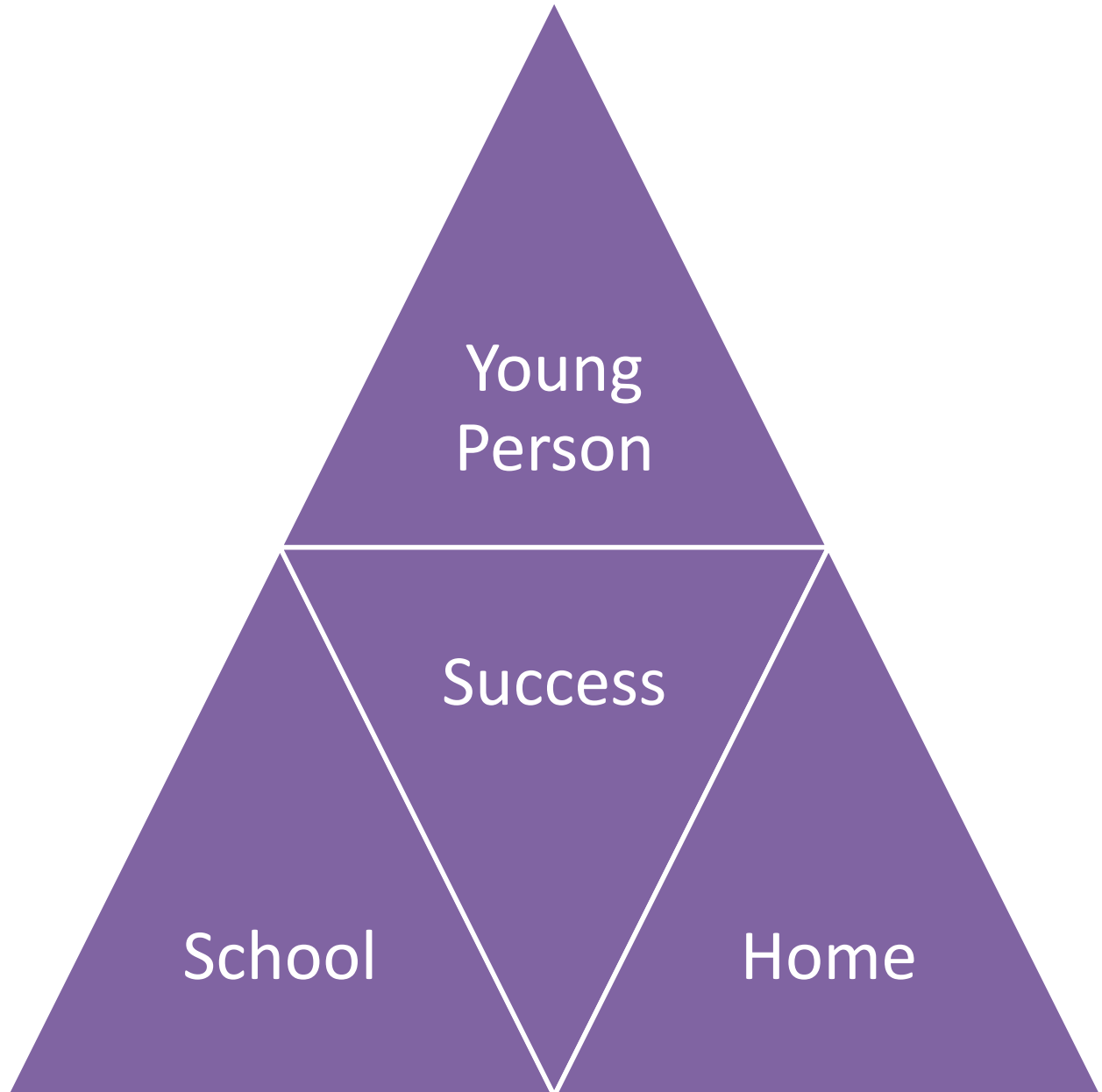
# Specific Support in literacy

- SfL – teacher referrals/ prior information
- Tools – Immersive Reader
- Tracking/ pupil information across departments
- Literacy Ambassadors
- Exam arrangements

# Useful links/ reading



- <https://education.gov.scot/parentzone>
- [http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Education/Schools/Raising\\_educationalattainment/Parentalengagement](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Education/Schools/Raising_educationalattainment/Parentalengagement)
- <http://www.scottishbooktrust.com/>
- <http://www.wordsforlife.org.uk/>
- <http://www.dyslexiascotland.org.uk/>





**Our learning Our community Our future**