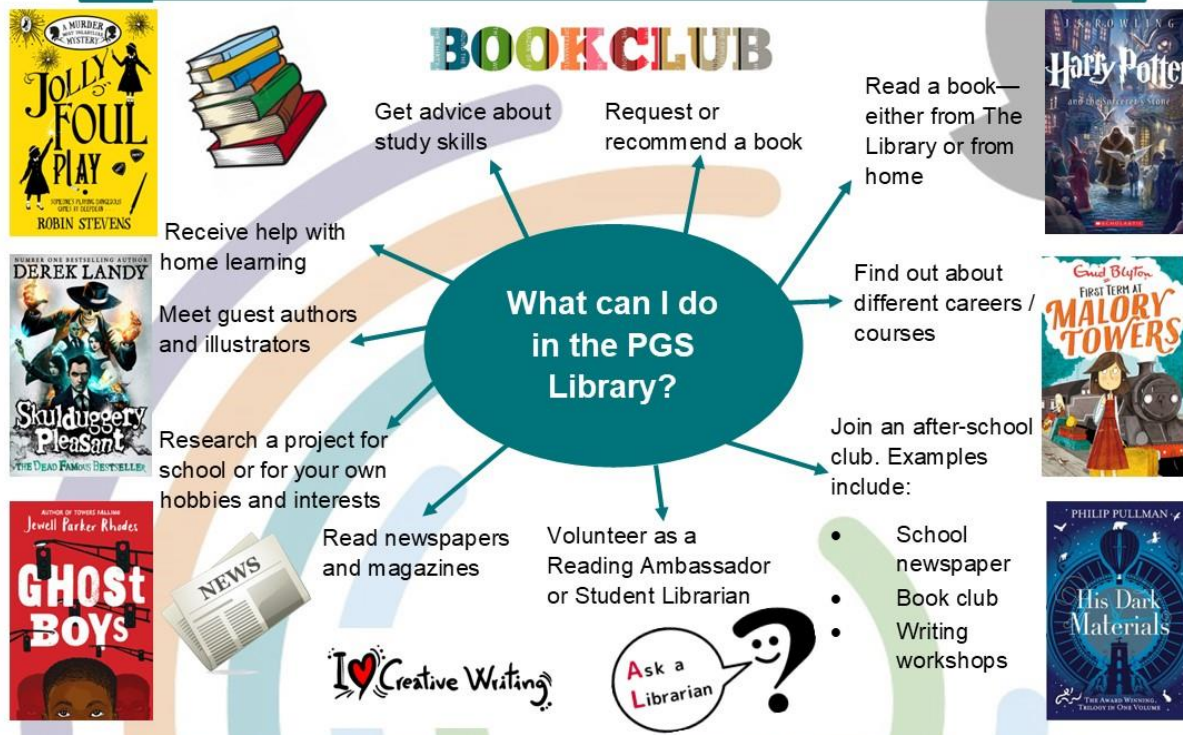


## Welcome to the PGS Library #Classof2028

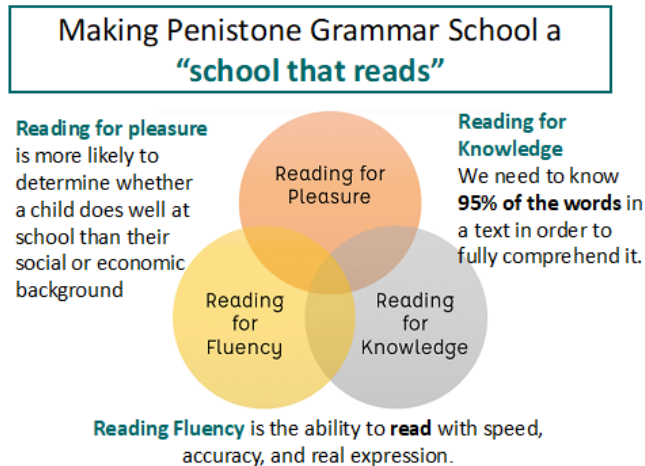


When you join Penistone Grammar School you instantly become a member of the Library—which means you can take advantage of all the benefits it has to offer straight away! The Library is a wonderful place to visit if you have a question that needs to be answered, a topic to be researched or even if you're just looking for a good book to read. When you visit the Library a great way to get started is to ask a librarian for help—your librarians at PGS are Mrs Barraclough and Mrs McDermott.

The Library isn't just a place to borrow books—although we do have a large selection from which you can choose! We also give help with home learning, run lots of different clubs and activities, host guest authors and speakers, and provide a safe, quiet space where you can read, sit or study. We can't wait to see the #classof2028 in the Library!

## Information for Parents / Carers

We truly believe **reading is the key to learning**. To complement reading, we also focus on improving students' capacity to know, understand and use academic vocabulary, as the more extensive a reader's vocabulary, the more equipped they will be to understand and learn new information.



Our curriculum framework is underpinned by reading and academic vocabulary. The ambition at PGS is:

### READING & ACADEMIC VOCABULARY

- We develop a culture of reading at every opportunity within the school day
- Reading is wide, varied and challenging at an age appropriate level
- Students are expected to read fluently and in depth for pleasure and knowledge
- Every opportunity is taken to develop the use of academic and subject-specific vocabulary
- We value the importance of oracy and students being able to speak with fluency and confidence

According to the Department for Education, since 2017, students have faced 'more demanding' GCSE examinations, with the **average reading age needed to access GCSE papers being 17**. This is problematic for a significant minority of students with a low reading age. A recent report ('Read All About it') suggests that 20% of all 15-year-olds have a reading age of 11 or below. Considering this, the importance of reading and academic vocabulary to your child's academic and future success has never been more important.

Not only does reading have academic benefits, but it can also strengthen an individual's mood, happiness ability to empathise with others and be used as a tool to improve an individual's mental health. Reducing your screen time before bed and replacing your phone with a book can help create a better sleep routine and improved nights' rest. It has also shown to **reduce your stress levels by up to 68%**. Therefore, reading is something that should be part of all our lives!

Within **our library space**, we provide a **magical escape from busy school life** where students can immerse themselves in a world of books. We are here to both support students on their reading journey, but also stretch and challenge avid readers. Additionally, we host English reading lessons, book clubs, writing workshops and intervention. We also work closely with the English Department and House Team **to help support and incentivise positive reading habits**. During their time with us, students will also be encouraged to read at home. We will help you support their reading journey by giving you reading suggestions and questions to ask them.

We are available to answer enquires via our dedicated email inbox: [library@penistone-gs.uk](mailto:library@penistone-gs.uk)

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