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[www.st-wilfrids.org](http://www.st-wilfrids.org)

Dear Parent or Carer,

### **Reading at St Wilfrid's R.C. College**

Reading is one of life's most essential skills. At St Wilfrid's R.C. College, we hope that all children will develop a love of books, an enthusiasm for enhancing their reading skills and grow to be confident, competent readers. As a parent or carer, you play a vital role in supporting your child's reading development and our partnership between home and school is essential for success with this life skill.

### **Independent Reading**

To ensure that your child continues to develop their reading skills, it is an expectation that students read for a minimum of 1 hour per week (for Year 11 students, this can be part of their revision for their external examinations). We recommend that students read a variety of different forms and genres to enhance their knowledge and vocabulary. This can be a text from home or it may be a text that your child has borrowed from our school library. The library has been carefully curated with young adult readers in mind therefore some texts may contain challenging content. We hope that this allows students to have interesting discussions about topical issues in the modern world however if you have any concerns or queries about text suitability, please check online reviews or read the blurb before your child reads their chosen text.

Your child is expected to bring their independent reading book with them to school and may be expected to read independently during lessons and form time. Your child's English teacher and form teacher will monitor your child's reading progress, ensuring that they are regularly changing their independent reading book and are reading age appropriate and adequately challenging texts to support their development.

As part of their English homework, your child must complete their reading journal on a weekly basis. This will provide them with an opportunity to review what they are reading, record new vocabulary they have acquired and discuss their independent reading with someone at home. To support with this, please discuss what your child has been reading and sign your child's weekly log.

In order for all of our students to benefit from the fantastic texts, we are asking that students take care of the books they are borrowing, ensuring they are kept in good condition and are not lost. If there is significant, intentional damage or books are lost, there may be a charge to replace that book.

As well as a newly stocked library, we have also purchased an online library which will allow students to access hundreds of exciting texts online. Download the Sora app on your electronic device or explore via your internet browser by visiting the website <https://soraapp.com>. Enter the setup code **uksecondary** and sign in with your school email address. Further instructions can be found on our school website.

Your support with reading at home is essential and only by working together can we ensure your child achieves their potential as a reader. Further advice on supporting your child with independent reading can be found on our school website: <https://www.st-wilfrids.org/our-school/family-learning/>

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Jane Wild  
Lead Practitioner of English