



Literacy at Tupton Hall School

The ability to communicate appropriately in different situations is fundamental to many aspects of life. This is why we take the promotion of literacy very seriously at Tupton Hall School. Here are just a few of the things we do to help promote good reading, writing, speaking and listening:

- We have a well-stocked, vibrant library which opens 8.00 am to 4.00 pm Monday to Thursday and 8.15 am to 3.05 pm on a Friday. The library is staffed by a Chartered Librarian and a Library Assistant who give advice about books to readers of all ages and abilities.
- All Year 7 and 8 students have a timetabled Accelerated Reader lesson in the library once a week. During these sessions, the library staff help students to choose books that are appropriate for their age and ability. Students are also encouraged to take quizzes about the books they have read.
- We run DEAR time sessions once each day where all Year 7 and 8 students 'Drop Everything And Read' for 15 minutes.
- Students and staff shadow the Carnegie and Kate Greenaway medals and meet with students from other Derbyshire schools to vote for their favourite.
- Students shadow the Derbyshire Schools' Book Award and are involved in drawing up the shortlist.
- Library staff organise many events throughout the year to raise the profile of reading, including celebrating Roald Dahl Day, Harry Potter Book Night and World Book Day.
- There are many reading-related images around school, including three large murals by local artist Peter Barber.
- The Buddy Reading scheme partners younger readers with older students during registrations to read together.
- All subjects take part in a Big Write twice a year where Key Stage 3 students are asked to write a specific non-fiction text.
- All lessons have a key word which is shared with the students with the aim of improving vocabulary.
- A word of the week is shared by form tutors with students who can earn rewards for using this word in their written or spoken work.
- Teachers from all subjects mark work using a green stamp and the Tupton Hall School marking code to ensure consistent feedback is given to students to help them improve.
- Teachers of all subjects sometimes ask students to improve their work using a green pen. This encourages students to take ownership of their work and to learn from their mistakes.
- There is a Tupton Hall literacy mat which is used occasionally in all subjects to help students improve their writing.
- Spellings are displayed on the screens around school.
- All Year 7 students take part in a poetry reading competition. The finalists deliver their poem in front of the whole year group and earn prizes for their performances. □ Rewards are available for good literacy-related work.