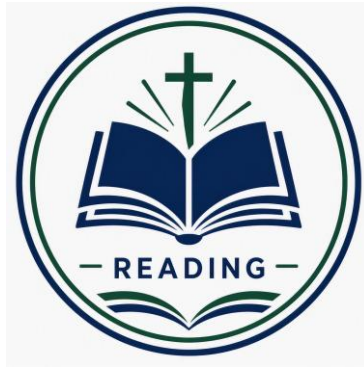


Reading at Our Lady's Catholic College



"Books are friends that never fail us."

— *St. John Bosco*

At Our Lady's Catholic College, we recognise that **reading is the foundation of successful learning** and the key to unlocking academic achievement across every subject. We are committed not only to developing our pupils' fluency, vocabulary and comprehension, but also to nurturing a lifelong love of reading that enriches their education and personal growth.

- **Reading Intervention**

To ensure every pupil becomes a confident and capable reader, we use a range of robust assessments to identify strengths, track progress and provide timely, personalised support. **Our intervention programmes enable pupils to rapidly close gaps in decoding, fluency and comprehension** so they can access the full curriculum.

- **Reading for Pleasure**

Reading for pleasure is at the heart of our approach. Pupils in Years 7–9 take part in dedicated Reading for Pleasure lessons each week, exploring high-quality texts from a wide variety of genres. These lessons help pupils broaden their vocabulary, build reading confidence, and experience the joy that reading can bring.

- **Reading across the curriculum**

Across the wider curriculum, teachers embed explicit vocabulary instruction and guided reading strategies to support pupils in tackling challenging academic texts. **All subject areas have carefully mapped story texts that supplement and enrich the learning in their curriculum**, ensuring pupils encounter a wide range of stories that deepen their understanding of subject content. Every classroom features its own subject-specific bookshelf, reinforcing our belief that **every teacher is a teacher of reading**. Our well-resourced library, author visits, competitions and whole-school reading events further strengthen our culture of reading.

- **Reading Leaders**

We are proud to celebrate our readers with regular awards and to empower pupils through our trained Reading Leaders programme, where **students support and inspire one another as they develop their reading skills**.

At Our Lady's Catholic College, reading is more than a skill, it is a **gateway to achievement, aspiration and enjoyment**. By fostering strong reading habits and a love of literature, we help our pupils become curious, capable and confident learners ready to succeed.