

Year 6 into Year 7 Summer Guide for Parents & Carers

Why Summer Literacy Matters...

- Literacy enjoyment and daily reading levels have dropped to all-time lows: only **1 in 3 children (34.6 %)** aged 8–18 enjoy reading in their free time, and only **20.5 % read daily** in 2024.
- Summer reading helps prevent the “summer slide”: maintaining skills, expanding vocabulary, and building confidence before Year 7.

Suggested Reading Activities

Aim for reading at least two or three books over the break, and involve your child/ward in making stories matter:

1. **Reading Diary or Review:** Encourage your child/ward to write or draw short reviews, create book trailers (videos), or keep a diary of favourite parts and characters.
2. **Postcards from Characters:** Ask your child/ward to write a postcard as if they were a favourite character—what are they describing? Where are they? How do they feel?
3. **Story Soundtrack:** Pick a book and build a playlist to match scenes or characters. Let your child/ward explain why each track fits.

Vocabulary Boost

Help your child/ward choose **five new words** from their reading:

- Learn spellings and definitions.
- Use them in sentences.
- Create illustrated entries (word cards, minidictionary).

This builds word knowledge and supports reading comprehension, key to success in secondary school.

How to Share in September

- Come to school in September ready to **share one favourite summer activity** with your new English teacher. Students can bring a sample to show their teacher.
- Recognised work may receive a **special certificate** from the English Department.

QEII English Department



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How Parents & Carers Can Support:

- **Let students choose books they love:** fiction, comics, biographies or audiobooks.
- **Read or listen to audiobooks together** to discuss new ideas or favourite parts.
- **Celebrate creativity:** Ask questions and show interest in their creations.

Help your child/ward keep reading and growing this summer!

These activities are not just about passing time! They build confidence, curiosity, and a strong head start for Year 7. By nurturing reading for pleasure and encouraging creative expression, you're helping your child/ward form positive lifelong habits.