

ABBOTSWOOD SCHOOL



'It Really Does Matter'

'Helping **everyone** achieve their best'

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Abbotswood Reading Challenge 2025-2026 Headteacher: Mr G. Moore

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are very excited to launch our 'Abbotswood Reading Challenge'. The Abbotswood Reading Challenge is an **optional** reading challenge which aims to encourage children to read a variety of high quality, engaging and enjoyable books. Most importantly, the Abbotswood Reading Challenge aims to promote and nurture a love of reading. However, it is also designed to ensure that children are challenged and are reading a range of genres and styles. To help with this, we encourage the children to read different types of books and books by different authors when they complete the challenge. If a child would like some advice about which books to read or new authors to try, please ask them to speak to our librarian Mrs Duell.

How the challenge works

The aim of the Abbotswood Reading Challenge is for children to complete every task on each of the Bronze, Silver and Gold levels of their year group challenge. They should aim to use a different book for each task. For the tasks where they need to create or make something, the children should show this to Mrs Duell when they present their challenge activity pack. For tasks where they are asked to read, this can be signed off as completed in their Reading Diary.

The challenge prizes

There are milestones for the number of books read and activities completed that the children aim for at each level of the challenge – helped by our Abbotswood Reading Challenge mascots. Gold, Silver and Bronze prizes will then be awarded to the children as follows:

- **Bronze** Prize: A bronze Reading Challenge badge, certificate, personalised Abbotswood Reading Challenge bookmark and 50 house points.
- **Silver** Prize: A silver Reading Challenge badge, certificate, personalised Abbotswood Reading Challenge bookmark and 75 house points.
- **Gold** Prize: A gold Reading Challenge badge, certificate, 100 house points and participation in a special event on Abbotswood Book Day.

How to take part

To take part in the Abbotswood Reading Challenge, your child needs to collect an activity pack from Mrs Duell in the library. Each activity pack will contain:

- An Abbotswood Reading Challenge activity sheet
- Ten pieces of paper - children can collect more from the library when required.

When children have completed their Bronze activities, they need to return their pack to Mrs Duell who will give them the next one. Mrs Duell will keep a log of how many activities each child has completed so that prizes can be awarded. The activities are different for each year group.

Finding books

Please encourage your child to find the books to read during their weekly class library slot, at break-times and at lunchtimes. Additionally, they can use the eBook platform Sora which includes a search option. Other libraries can be used to source books, but our aim is to make our library the first port of call. For children who are on a reading scheme or who find some chapter books too challenging to read independently, please feel free to read a book with your child. They can then complete an activity based on this book. Some children have asked whether they can listen to audiobooks. Listening to stories is a great way to engage with a text but we recommend that this is only used for a few of the books because there is much greater value to be gained from a child reading the text themselves or reading it alongside an adult.

Friday lunchtime club

We encourage the children to complete their Abbotswood Reading Challenge activities at home. However, we also provide opportunities during the school day including break and lunch times. We also have a dedicated Friday lunchtime club where Mrs Duell is available to support children with their activities. If children are worried about losing their activity pack or are enjoying completing activities at school, they can keep it in the library. If this is the case, please encourage your child to speak with Mrs Duell about this.

When the challenge will run

Our Abbotswood Reading Challenge will run from Friday 28th November 2025 through to Monday 21st June 2026. Children can join the challenge at any time.

Thank you all in advance for your support and happy reading!

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Jessica Duell
School Librarian

Ms Cat Gonzalez
Assistant Headteacher

Miss Zoe Robinson
Reading for Pleasure Leader