

**Reading Cloud** - Quick Start Guide



# About Reading Cloud:

The Reading Cloud is a fantastic new online reading community designed to engage students, parents and educators in reading for pleasure. The Reading Cloud uses the very latest technologies to really capture the imagination of students, linking real and virtual reading experiences to drive up literacy standards and develop core reading skills.

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# Home Screen:

When first loading Reading Cloud the home screen will be shown. Below is a brief description of each area.

## Star Review:

The star review is a chosen review which then appears on the front page. Clicking on **More Reviews** will open up the other reviews written by students.

## Featured Author:

An author can be chosen as a ‘Featured Author’, for example for highlighting the release of a new series of books. Clicking on **More Authors** opens up a list of all authors in the system.

## Trending:

Similar to ‘The Cloud’ in .NET, this shows the most popular searches and authors.

## Meet the Author:

A random ‘Meet the Author’ video is selected each time the page loads. Clicking on **Meet the Author** links to a page will all meet the author videos available.

## Most Popular Books:

Quickly run reports to see the most popular books for girls / boys / age ranges / etc.

## Quick Search:

Quickly search for items by title / author / etc.

## Word of the day:

Randomly selects a word of the day from a predefined customisable list.

## Fact of the day:

Randomly selects a fact of the day from a predefined customisable list.

## News:

Shows the news items from the library / area.

## Twitter Feed:

Shows the latest Tweet from a definable feed.

## Facebook Feed:

Shows the latest Facebook post from a definable feed.

## Who Next:

Work out who to read next based on other authors that a borrower enjoys.



My Blog

Timeline

What’s on your mind?

My info

My Account

My Profile

My Home Library

# Logged-On Screen:

After logging onto the Reading Cloud some additional options / features will be available. Below is a brief description of each area.

## My Blog:

Links to the My Blog page, where borrowers can keep a blog of their activities.

## My Home Library:

Links to the My Home Library page where borrowers can catalogue books / CDs / DVDs / etc that they have at home and manage loans of these items to other Reading Cloud users.

## My Profile:

Links to My Profile where borrowers can enter basic information about themselves and create / edit their avatar.

## My Account:

Links to My Account where their Current Loans / Past Loans / Reservations / in the library system can be seen.

## What’s on your mind?

Allows users to set a status message that all their friends can see.

## Timeline:

Shows all activity of the user and their friends (e.g. What books have been liked, Home Loans, etc).

## My Info:

Shows information on friends, including:

* Who is Online – The online status of friends
* Notifications – Notifications of friend requests / Home Library loan requests
* Friends – How many friends a user has and the status of each
* Chat – Instant Chat with friends / See history of Chat messages.

# My Blog



The **My Blog** screen allows users to write blog posts for their friends to see and comment on.

# My Home Library



**My Home Library** is an area where users can catalogue their own items to create a home library of books, DVDs, CDs, Games, etc. Once an item has been catalogued friends of the user can see them on their profile and request to borrow them. The system then allows for the tracking of these loans sending notifications between the two users when the book is requested, confirmation of receipt, requested back, received back, etc.

# My Profile



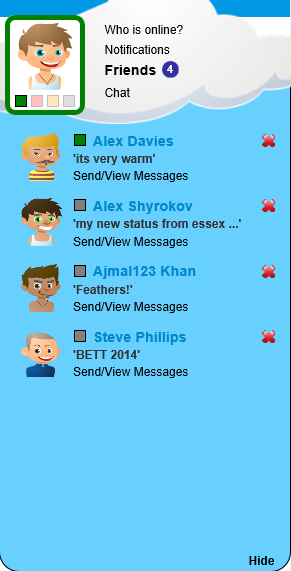
The **My Profile** area allows for a brief **Biography** to be entered, an **Avatar** to be created and it displays all the items that a user has **Liked**.

# My Account



**My Account** shows a user’s **Current Loans**, **Past Loans** and **Reservations**. It will display if items are overdue and (if the option is enabled in the Management area of the library system) it will allow items that are not yet overdue to be renewed.

# My Info



The **My Info** area allows users to see all their friends, which are currently online, what **notifications** they have (friend requests / home library loan requests) and **chat** with their friends through **Reading Cloud**.

# Quick Search



The **Quick Search** box is available in the top right of every page and allows for quickly searching by author, title, student name, etc.

After entering a search it will by default list all resources that match.



The user can then choose to instead list **Profiles** of students in the system, **Blog** posts, **Reviews**, etc.

# Advanced Search



Advanced Search allows for more advanced searches and will be familiar to any previous .NET library users. As per previous system the A-Z, View, Picture and Simple search functions are available by clicking the tabs.

