



### Recommended Reads: Years 7/8

#### Action & Thrillers

- *Bodyguard* or *Young Samurai* (& sequels); *Bullet Catcher* or *Gamer* by Chris Bradford\*
- *Heist Society* or *I'd Tell You I Love You But Then I'd Have to Kill You* (& sequels) by Ally Carter
- *Mortal Chaos, Speed Freaks, The Everest Files* (& sequels) or *Lie, Kill, Walk Away* by Matt Dickinson
- *The London Eye Mystery* by Siobhan Dowd
- *DC Comics: Secret Hero Society* by Fridolfs & Nguyen\*
- *Mission Survival* series by Bear Grylls\*
- *Silverfin* or *The Enemy* (& sequels) by C Higson
- *The Outsiders* by SE Hinton
- *Stormbreaker* (& sequels) by A. Horowitz\*
- *Itch* (& sequels) by Simon Mayo
- *Where the World Ends* by G. McCaughrean
- *Girl Missing* (& sequels) by Sophie McKenzie
- *Boy Soldier & Dropzone* (& sequels) by A McNab
- *The Recruit* (& sequels) by R. Muchamore\*
- *Maximum Ride* (& sequels) by J Patterson
- *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen
- *Agent 21* (& sequels) by Chris Ryan
- *Night Speakers* or *Carjacked* by Ali Sparkes
- *Murder Most Unladylike* (& sequels) by R Stevens
- *Lost (Choose Your Own Adventure)* by T Turner.\*

#### Classics or Challenging Reads

- *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott
- *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll
- *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* by A C Doyle
- *Diary of Anne Frank* by Anne Frank
- *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway
- *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
- *Call of the Wild* by Jack London
- *Animal Farm* by George Orwell
- *Black Beauty* by Anna Sewell
- *Treasure Island* by Robert L Stevenson
- *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck
- *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Mildred Taylor
- *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain
- *Around the World in 80 Days* by Jules Verne
- *The Sword in the Stone* by TH White

#### Dystopian & Science Fiction

- *Matched* (& sequels) by Ally Condie
- *The Maze Runner* (& sequels) by J Dashner
- *Cell 7* (& sequels) by Kerry Drewery
- *The Gender Game* by Bella Forrest
- *Gone* (& sequels) or *Monster* by Michael Grant
- *Illuminae* (& sequels) by A Kaufmann and J Kristoff
- *Department 19* (& sequels) by Will Hill
- *I Am Number Four* (& sequels) by P Lore
- *The Giver* and *Gathering Blue* by Lois Lowry
- *Legend* (& sequels) by Marie Lu
- *The Knife of Never Letting Go* (& sequels) by Patrick Ness
- *MetaWars: Fight for the Future* (&sequels) by Jeff Norton\*
- *Railhead* (& sequels) by Philip Reeve
- *Divergent* (& sequels) by Veronica Roth
- *Remade* or *Time Riders* –by Alex Scarrow
- *Scythe* or *Unwind* by Neal Shusterman
- *Contagion* or *Slated* (& sequels) by Teri Terry
- *The 5th Wave* (& sequels) by Rick Yancey

#### Fantasy, Magic Realism, Horror & Ghost

- *The House with Chicken Legs* by Sophie Anderson
- *Cogheart* by Peter Bunzl
- *Mind Writer* by Steve Cole\*
- *Artemis Fowl* (& sequels) by Eoin Colfer
- *The Dark is Rising* by Susan Cooper
- *Who Let the Gods Out* by Maz Evans
- *Ranger's Apprentice* series by John Flanagan
- *Inkheart* (& sequels) by Cornelia Funke
- *The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman
- *A Skinful of Shadows* by Frances Hardinge
- *Girl of Ink and Stars* by Kiran Millwood Hargrave
- *Green Angel* by Alice Hoffman
- *Skulduggery Pleasant* (& sequels) by Derek Landy
- *Zom-B* or *Cirque du Freak* (& sequels) by D. Shan\*
- *Discworld* (and other series) by Terry Pratchett
- *Through Dead Eyes* by Chris Priestley
- *Northern Lights* (& sequels) by Phillip Pullman
- *Mrs Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* by Ransom Riggs
- *Percy Jackson* or *Kane Chronicles* series by Riordan
- *The Monsters We Deserve* by Marcus Sedgwick
- *Thunderstruck* or *Unleashed* by Ali Sparkes\*
- *Finding Sky* (& sequels) by Joss Stirling
- *The Edge Chronicles* by P Stewart and C Riddell

## Humorous books

- **Millions, Cosmic or Broccoli Boy** by Frank C Boyce
- **The Last Kids on Earth** (& sequels) by Max Brallier
- **Fenway and Hattie** by Victoria Cole\*
- **Demolition Dad** (& sequels) by Phil Earle\*
- **Enginerds** (& sequels) by Jarrett Lerner\*
- **Disaster Diaries: Zombies** (&sequels)by R McGeddon\*
- **The Donut Diaries** series by A McGowan\*
- **The Accidental Billionaire** series by T McLaughlin
- **The World of Norm** series by Jonathon Meres\*
- **Timmy Failure** series by Stephan Pastis\*
- **Middle School** series by James Patterson\*
- **Tom Gates** series by Liz Pichon (dyslexia-friendly)\*
- **Big Nate** series by Lincoln Peirce\*
- **Mort** by Terry Pratchett
- **Killer Animals** (series) by Tracey Turner
- **Gangsta Granny** (& more) by David Walliams\*
- **What Not To Do If You Turn Invisible** by R Welford

## Relationships & Tough Situations

- **Noughts and Crosses, Cloud Busting or Pig-Heart Boy** by Malorie Blackman
- **Blubber** or anything by Judy Blume
- **Artichoke Hearts** or **Jasmine Skies** by Sita Brahmachari
- **Walk Two Moons** by Sharon Creech
- **One, Apple & Rain** or **Weight of Water** by Sarah Crossan
- **Out of My Mind** by Sharon Draper
- **Mind the Gap, Being Billy or Saving Daisy** by P Earle\*
- **The Many Worlds of Albie Bright, Jamie Drake Equation** or **Infinite Lives of Maisie Day** by Christopher Edge
- **Mockingbird** by Kathryn Erskine
- **Tulip Touch, Goggle Eyes or Flour Babies** by A. Fine
- **The Bubble Boy** by Stewart Foster
- **The Bone Sparrow** by Zana Fraillion
- **George** by Alex Gino
- **Tall Story** or **Shine** by Candy Gourlay
- **The Island at the End of Everything** by KM Hargrave
- **After the Fire** by Will Hill
- **Boy in the Tower** by Polly Ho-Yen
- **Red Sky in the Morning** by Elizabeth Laird
- **Every Falling Star** (North Korea) by Sungju Lee
- **A Monster Calls** by Patrick Ness

- **Word Nerd, We Are All Made of Molecules** by Susin Nielsen
- **Wonder** by R.J. Palacio
- **Pax** by Sarah Pennypacker
- **My Sister Lives on the Mantelpiece** by A Pitcher
- **Esperanza Rising** by Pam Munoz Ryan
- **The Marvels** or **Wonderstruck** by Brian Selznick\*
- **Stargirl** by Jerry Spinelli
- **The Hate U Give** by Angie Thomas
- **The 1000-Year Old Boy** by Ross Welford
- **A Boy Called Hope** by Lara Williamson
- **Beyond the Bright Sea** by Lauren Wolk
- **Brown Girl Dreaming** by Jacqueline Woodson
- **I am Malala** by Malala Yousafzai

## Sports

- **Booked, Crossover or Rebound** by K. Alexander\*
- **Charlie Merrick's Misfits...** by David Cousins\*
- **The Beautiful Game** series by Dhani
- **Man of the Match** (& series) by Dan Freedman
- **The Number 7 Shirt** or **The Lion Roars** by A Gibbons
- **The Fix** by Sophie McKenzie\*
- **Football Academy** series – Tom Palmer\*
- **Foul Play** (& sequels) or **Black Op** by Tom Palmer
- **Soccer Squad** and series by Bali Rai\*

## War & Conflict

- **Soldier Dog** or **A Horse Called Hero** by Sam Angus
- **The Boy at the Top of the Mountain** or **The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas** by J Boyne
- **Red Shadow** by Paul Dowswell
- **Under a War-Torn Sky** by L.M. Elliott
- **Once** (& sequels) by Morris Gleitzman
- **Inside Out and Back Again** by Thanhha Lai
- **Dog Tags: Semper Fido** or **Strays** by C A London\*
- **Number the Stars** by Lois Lowry
- **War Horse** or **Private Peaceful** by M Morpurgo
- **Sunrise Over Fallujah** by Walter Dean Myers\*
- **A Night Divided** by Jennifer Nielson
- **The Red Pencil** by Andrea David Pinkney
- **The Sniper** by James Riordan
- **A Soldier's Friend** (series) by Megan Rix
- **Salt to the Sea** by Ruta Sepetys
- **The Book Thief** by Marcus Zusak

*Note to parents: Some books from this list are written for young adult readers; this means there may be occasional 'gritty' content. If you have queries about suitability, please check online reviews or ask your child's teacher.*

\* = Top picks for reluctant readers