



Recommended Reads for Key Stage 4

Action, Mysteries, Horror & Thrillers

- *Famous Last Words* or *Bad Girls Don't Die* by Katie Alender
- *Bodyguard: Hostage* (& sequels) by C. Bradford*
- *Dead Time* (& sequels) by Anne Cassidy
- *Mortal Chaos, Speed Freaks, The Everest Files* or *Lie, Kill, Walk Away* by Matt Dickinson*
- *A Gathering Light* by Jennifer Donnelly
- *The Curious Incident of the Dog...* by Mark Haddon
- *The Enemy* (& sequels) by Charlie Higson*
- *House of Silk* or *Moriarty* by Anthony Horowitz
- *Sawbones* (& sequel) by Catherine Johnson
- *The Long Weekend* by Savita Kalhan
- *We Were Liars* by E Lockheart
- *Here We Lie, Sweetfreak, Blood Ties* or *Girl Missing* (& sequels) by Sophie McKenzie
- *One of Us is Lying* by Karen McManus
- *The New Recruit* or *Dropzone* by Andy McNab*
- *I am Still Alive* by Kate Marshall
- *Blame* or *Itch* (& sequels) by Simon Mayo
- *The Recruit (Cherub), The Escape (Henderson's Boys)* or *Rock War* (& sequels) by R Muchamore*
- *Daniel X, Maximum Ride* or *Confessions of Murder Suspect* series by James Patterson*
- *13 Minutes* by Sarah Pinborough
- *Remade* (& sequels) by Alex Scarrow*
- *The Monsters We Deserve* by Marcus Sedgwick
- *Murder Most Unladylike* by Robin Stevens

Autobiographies/Memoirs

- *I Know Why a Caged Bird Sings* by M. Angelou
- *A Street Cat Named Bob* by James Bowen*
- *Wave: Life After the Tsunami* by S. Deraniyagala
- *One Dog at a Time* (& sequels) by Pen Farthing*
- *Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank
- *In Real Life* by Joey Graceffa
- *Marley & Me* by John Grogan*
- *Mud, Sweat and Tears* by Bear Grylls*
- *Fever Pitch* by Nick Hornby
- *The Story of My Life* by Helen Keller
- *Finding Gobi* by Dion Leonard *
- *Nothing to Envy* (North Korea) by B Demick
- *Today Everything Changes* by Andy McNab*

- *Chinese Cinderella* by Adeline Yen Mah
- *Dreams From My Father* by Barack Obama
- *Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi (graphic novel)
- *Touching the Void* by Joe Simpson*
- *I am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai
- *Night* by Elie Wiesel

Classics & Modern Literature

- *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe
- *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood
- *Pride and Prejudice* or *Persuasion* by Jane Austen
- *Great Expectations* or *Oliver Twist* by C Dickens
- *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte
- *Wuthering Heights* by Emily Bronte
- *Sherlock Holmes* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
- *Rebecca* by Daphne du Maurier
- *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding
- *Tess of the D'ubervilles* by Thomas Hardy
- *Brave New World* by Alex Huxley
- *Never Let Me Go* by Kazuo Ishiguro
- *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
- *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy
- *1984* or *Animal Farm* by George Orwell
- *The Catcher in the Rye* by JD Salinger
- *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hide* by RL Stevenson
- *Dracula* by Bram Stoker
- *The Adventures of Huck Finn* by Mark Twain
- *The Once and Future King* by TH White

Complex/Difficult Issues

- *Change is Gonna Come* by various BAME authors
- *Simon vs the Homo Sapiens Agenda* by B Albertalli
- *Booked, Rebound* or *Crossover* by Kwame Alexander*
- *Thirteen Reasons Why* by Jay Asher*
- *Noughts & Crosses* or *Boys Don't Cry* by Malorie Blackman*
- *Tiger Eyes* or anything by Judy Blume*
- *Am I Normal Yet?* (Spinster Club series) by Holly Bourne
- *The Bunker Diary* by Kevin Brooks*
- *Junk* or *The Hit* by Melvin Burgess
- *Looking for JJ* or *Moth Girls* by Anne Cassidy
- *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* by Stephen Chbosky
- *Stolen* by Lucy Christopher
- *One* or *The Weight of Water* by Sarah Crossan*
- *Before I Die* by Jenny Downam
- *Out of My Mind* by Sharon Draper

- **Heroic, Being Billy** or **Saving Daisy** by Phil Earle*
- **Mockingbird** or **Seeing Red** by Kathryn Erskine
- **The Universe versus Alex Woods** by G. Extence
- **If I Stay & Where She Went** by G. Forman*
- **Fault in Our Stars, Looking for Alaska** or **Turtles All the Way Down** by John Green*
- **After the Fire** by Will Hill
- **The Outsiders** by SE Hinton*
- **Pigeon English** by Stephen Kelman
- **I am Thunder** by Muhammed Khan
- **Ways to Live Forever** by Sally Nichols
- **We Are All Made of Molecules** by Susin Nielson
- **All the Bright Places** (+ others) by Jennifer Niven
- **Before I Fall** or **Vanishing Girls** by Lauren Oliver
- **My Sister's Keeper** by Jodi Picoult
- **My Sister Lives on the Mantelpiece** by Annabel Pitcher
- **Long Way Down** by Jason Reynolds
- **Lies We Tell Ourselves** by Robin Talley
- **Extraordinary Means** by Robin Schneider
- **The Lovely Bones** by Alice Sebold
- **The Help** by Kathryn Stockett
- **Anita and Me** by Meera Syal
- **The Hate U Give** by Angie Thomas*
- **It's Kind of a Funny Story** by Ned Vizzini
- **My Name is Leon** by Kit de Waal
- **Liclle Bit** (& sequels) by Alex Wheatle
- **The Art of Being Normal** by Lara Williamson
- **Teacher's Dead, Face or Terror Kid** by Benjamin Zephaniah

Conflict, War, Genocide & the Refugee Experience

- **The Bone Sparrow** by Zana Fraillion
- **The Kite Runner** by Khalid Hosseini
- **Dog Tags: Semper Fido** or **Strays** by CA London*
- **All Fall Down** by Sally Nichols
- **Fallen Angels** or **Sunrise over Fallujah** by WD Myers*
- **The Red Pencil** by Andrea David Pinkney
- **Milkweed** by Jerry Spinelli
- **An Ember in the Ashes** by Saaba Tahir
- **Code Name Verity** by Elizabeth Wren
- **Refugee Boy** by Benjamin Zephaniah
- **The Book Thief** by Marcus Zusak

Dystopian & Science Fiction

- **Children of Blood and Bone** by Tomi Adeyemi
- **iBoy** by Kevin Brooks*
- **The Girl With All the Gifts** by MR Carey

- **City of Bones** (& sequels) by Cassandra Clare
- **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) by Michael Grant*
- **Department 19** (& sequels) by Will Hill
- **The Loneliest Girl in the Universe** by Lauren James
- **I Am Number Four** (& sequels) by Pittacus Lore*
- **Legend** (& sequels) by Marie Lu*
- **The Knife of Never Letting Go** by Patrick Ness
- **MetaWars: Fight for Future** (& sequels) by J. Norton*
- **Replica** or **Delirium** (& sequels) by Lauren Oliver
- **Only Ever Yours** by Louise O'Neill
- **Divergent** (& sequels) by Veronica Roth
- **Scythe** or **Unwind** (& sequels) by Neal Shusterman*
- **Contagion** or **Slated** (& sequels) by Teri Terry
- **Uglies** or **Zeroes** (& sequels) by Scott Westerfield
- **The 5th Wave** (& sequels) by Rick Yancey*

Humorous books

- **The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy** by D Adams
- **Swim the Fly** (& sequels) by Don Calame
- **The Private Blog of Joe Cowley** by Ben Davis*
- **An Abundance of Katherines** by John Green*
- **The Reformed Vampire Support Group** by Jinks*
- **Hellbent** or **Henry Tumour** by Anthony McGowan*
- **Don't Even Think About It** by Sarah Mylnowski
- **The Colour of Magic** (& sequels) by Terry Pratchett
- **A Midsummer Tights Dream** by Louise Rennison
- **The Rosie Project** (& sequel) by Graeme Simsion

Relationships

- **Beautiful Broken Things** by Sara Barnard
- **Why We Broke Up** by Daniel Handler*
- **Slammed** by Colleen Hoover
- **Hold Back the Stars** by Katie Khan
- **Falling Fast** (& sequels) by Sophie McKenzie
- **One Day** by David Nicholls
- **Eleanor and Park & Fangirl** by Rainbow Rowell*
- **The Art of Racing in the Rain** by Garth Stein
- **Shiver** (& sequels) by Maggie Stiefvater
- **Our Chemical Hearts** by Krystal Sutherland
- **If You Come Softly** by Jacqueline Woodson

Note to parents: Many of these books are written for young adult readers (13+) or adults; this means there may be 'gritty' content. If you have queries about suitability, please check online reviews or ask your child's teacher.

** = top picks for reluctant readers*