

Recommended Reads: Years 7/8

Action, Adventure, Mystery & Thrillers

Storm Catchers by Tim Bowler
The Terrible Thing [...] Barnaby Rooket - John Boyne
Bodyguard or *Gamer* (& sequels) by Chris Bradford*
Mortal Chaos or *Lie, Kill, Walk Away* –M Dickinson
The London Eye Mystery by Siobhan Dowd
The Girl Who Stole An Elephant by Nizrana Farook
Boy Overboard by Morris Gleitzman
The Boy Who Flew by Fleur Hitchcock
High Rise Mystery & Mic Drop by Sharna Jackson
The Long Weekend by Savita Kalhan*
Girl Missing (& sequels) by Sophie McKenzie
The Recruit (& sequels) or *Killer T* -R Muchamore*
Hatchet by Gary Paulsen
Ruby in the Smoke by Phillip Pullman
Wolf Wilder, Rooftopper The Explorer by K Rundell
Murder Most Unladylike (& sequels) – R Stevens
Lost (Choose Your Own Adventure) -Tracey Turner.*
Girl. Boy. Sea by Chris Vick
The Extinction Trials by SM Wilson

Dystopian & Science Fiction

The Infinite by Patience Agbabi
The Middler or *Troofriend* by Kirsty Applebaum
Ink (& sequels) by Alice Broadway
Where the River Runs Gold by Sita Brahmachari
Gone or *BRZK* (& sequels) -Michael Grant
Nowhere on Earth by Nick Lake
The Giver and *Gathering Blue* by Lois Lowry
The Dog Runner, Across the Risen Sea & How to Bee by Bren Macdibble – environmental dystopia
Killer T by Robert Muchamore
The Knife of Never Letting Go (& sequels)-P Ness
Railhead & Mortal Engines (& sequels)-P Reeve
Scythe, Unwind, Dry (& sequels) – N Shusterman
Destination Earth by Ali Sparkes
Contagion or *Slated* (& sequels) by Teri Terry
The Kid Who Came From Space by Ross Welford
The 5th Wave (& sequels) by Rick Yancey

Fantasy, Magic Realism, Horror & Ghost

The House With Chicken Legs & Girl/Bear -S. Anderson
Asha & The Spirit Bird by Jasbinder Bilan
Mind Writer by Steve Cole*
Artemis Fowl (& sequels) by Eoin Colfer
Who Let the Gods Out (& sequels) by Maz Evans
Ranger's Apprentice or *Brotherband* - J Flanagan

Inkheart (& sequels) or *Reckless* by Cornelia Funke
The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman
Blackberry Blue by Jamila Gavin
Brightstorm: A Sky-Ship Adventure by Vashti Hardy
Girl of Ink and Stars by Kiran Millwood Hargrave
Skulduggery Pleasant (& sequels) by Derek Landy
Eragon (& sequels) by Christopher Paolini
Tales of Terror, Mister Creecher –Chris Priestley
Northern Lights (& sequels) by Phillip Pullman
Goth Girl (& sequels) by Chris Riddell*
Mrs Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children -Riggs
Alcatraz & Evil Librarians (& sequels) by B Sanderson
Zom-B or *Cirque du Freak* (& sequels) by D. Shan*
Oh My Gods by Alexandra Sheppard
Black Panther the Young Prince by Roland L Smith
The Edge Chronicles by P Stewart and C Riddell

Humorous books

Little Badman &[...] Killer Aunties - Humza Arshad
Millions, Cosmic or Broccoli Boy by Frank C Boyce
The Last Kids on Earth (& sequels) by Max Brallier*
Fenway and Hattie by Victoria Cole*
Adventures of a Wimpy Vampire(&more)-T.Collins*
The 13-Storey Treehouse (& series) by A Griffiths*
Cookie & the Most Annoying Boy... by Konnie Huq*
Enginerds (& sequels) by Jarrett Lerner*
Disaster Diaries: Zombies (&sequels)-R McGeddon*
The Accidental Billionaire series- T McLaughlin
The World of Norm series by Jonathon Meres*
Accidental Trouble: Planet Omar by Zanib Mian
Timmy Failure series by Stephan Pastis*
Tom Gates series by Liz Pichon (dyslexia-friendly)*
Big Nate series by Lincoln Peirce*

Relationships & Tough Situations

Cyborg Cat (& sequels)- Ade Adepitan*
The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate
Boy Underwater by Adam Baron
Noughts and Crosses or *Pig-Heart Boy* - M Blackman
Blubber or anything by Judy Blume
Artichoke Hearts or *Jasmine Skies* -S. Brahmachari
A Pocketful of Stars by Aisha Bushby
Efren Divided by Ernesto Cisneros
New Kid by Jerry Craft
One, Apple & Rain, Moonrise, Toffee -S Crossan
Stella By Starlight or *Blended* by Sharon Draper
Running on Empty by S.E. Durrant
Mind the Gap, Being Billy or Saving Daisy - P Earle*

The Many Worlds of Albie Bright –Chris Edge
Pet by Akwaeke Emezi
Mockingbird by Kathryn Erskine
Tulip Touch, Goggle Eyes or Flour Babies by A. Fine
Lenny’s Book of Everything by Karen Foxlee
Check Mates & The Bubble Boy by Stewart Foster
One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams–Garcia
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
A Different Dog by Paul Jennings*
Red Sky in the Morning or Song/Dolphin Boy -E Laird
Scarlet Ibis by Gill Lewis
Rain Reign by Ann M Martin
Brock, Pike, Rook & Lark by Anthony McGowan *
A Monster Calls by Patrick Ness
No Fixed Address or Word Nerd – Susin Nielsen
Wonder by R.J. Palacio
Pax or Here in the Real World - S Pennypacker
Unboxed by Non Pratt *
A Good Kind of Trouble by Lisa Moore Ramee
Long Way Down, Look Both Ways, Ghost -Reynolds*
Ghost Boys or ***Black Brother[...]*** Jewell P Rhodes
Esperanza Rising by Pam Munoz Ryan
Operation Frog Effect by Sarah Scheerger
Can You See Me or Do You Know Me–Scott & Westcott
The Marvels or Wonderstruck by Brian Selznick*
The Boxer by Nikesh Shukla
Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli
Clean Getaway by Nic Stone
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred Taylor
The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas
Goldfish Boy by Lisa Thompson
The 1000 Year Old Boy or Time/Hamster - Ross Welford
A Boy Called Hope or Ocean/Armchair - by L Williamson
Brown Girl Dreaming or Harbor Me - J Woodson
Front Desk by Kelly Yang

Sports

Booked, Crossover or Rebound – K. Alexander*
Stat Man by Alan Durant *
Unstoppable or Man of the Match - Dan Freedman*
The Number 7 Shirt or The Lion Roars - A Gibbons*
Kick by Mitch Johnson
The Fix by Sophie McKenzie*
The Greatest: Muhammed Ali by Walter D Myers*

Ultimate Football Heroes Collection – M&T Oldfield*
Football Academy or ***Foul Play*** series–Tom Palmer*
Soccer Squad, Dream On (& series) by Bali Rai*
Outcasts United (young people edition) -W. St John
The Football Boy Wonder (& sequels) - Martin Smith*
Pay Attention, Carter Jones by Gary Schmidt*

History, War, Conflict & Refugee Experience

Soldier Dog or A Horse Called Hero - Sam Angus
The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas by J Boyne
The Short Knife by Elen Caldecott
Illegal by Eoin Colfer *
Wolf Children, Red Shadow, Eleven Eleven -Dowswell
Copper Sun by Sharon Draper
Under a War-Torn Sky by L.M. Elliott
Boy 87 by Ele Fountain
The Bone Sparrow by Zana Fraillion
Once (& sequels) by Morris Gleitzman *
Bone Talk by Candy Gourlay
Grenade by Alan Gratz
Race to the Frozen North*, 1783, Blade and Bones or
Sawbones by Catherine Johnson
Orphan Monster Spy by Matt Killeen
Inside Out and Back Again by Thanhha Lai
Crusade by Elizabeth Laird
Buffalo Soldier or Apache by Tanya Landman
Every Falling Star (North Korea) by Sungju Lee
Dog Tags: Semper Fido or ***Strays*** by C A London*
Diver’s Daughter: A Tudor Story by P Lawrence
Shadow or ***In the Mouth of the Wolf*** -Morpurgo
Sunrise Over Fallujah by Walter Dean Myers*
A Night Divided by Jennifer Nielson
After the War, Armistice Runner or ***Over/Line***-T Palmer*
A Long Walk to Water by Linda Sue Park
The Red Pencil by Andrea David Pinkney
Now or Never: A Dunkirk Story by Bali Rai*
The Boy at the Back of the Class by Onjali Rauf
Salt to the Sea by Ruta Sepetys
Eagle of the Ninth by Rosemary Sutcliffe
Refugee Boy by Benjamin Zephaniah
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. Generally by Key Stage 3 young people are ready for this, but parents know their children best; if you have queries about suitability, please check online reviews or ask your child’s teacher.

* = Top picks for reluctant readers;