

**Recommended Reads for KS4 Y9-11**

**Action, Mysteries, Horror & Thrillers**

***Famous Last Words*** or ***Bad Girls Don’t Die***– Alender

***S.T.A.G.S.*** (& sequels) by M.A. Bennett

***Bodyguard*** series; ***Bulletcatcher*** by Chris Bradford\*

***The Bunker Diary*; *Martyn Pig***; ***iBoy*** - Kevin Brooks

***Dead Time*** (& sequels); ***The Bone Room\**** -A Cassidy

***And Then There Were None*** by Agatha Christie+

***Say Her Name*** by Juno Dawson

***Mortal Chaos*** *or* ***Lie, Kill, Walk Away*** *-*M Dickinson

***A Gathering Light*** by Jennifer Donnelly

***Zero Day*** by Jan Gangsei

***The Enemy***(& sequels) by Charlie Higson\*

***House of Silk, Moriarty***, ***Magpie Murders-***Horowitz+

***A Good Girl’s Guide to Murder*** by Holly Jackson

***Sawbones*** or ***Blade & Bone*** by Catherine Johnson

***The Long Weekend*** by Savita Kalhan\*

***Carrie*** or ***It*** by Stephen King+

***Bluebeard, Bluebeard*** by Attica Locke+

***We Were Liars*** by E Lockhart

***Girl, Missing; Here We Lie;******Blood Ties*** *by* S McKenzie

***#Murdertrending*** by Gretchen McNeil\*

***One of Us is Lying*** (& sequels)by Karen McManus

***I am Still Alive*** or ***Rules for Vanishing*** by K Marshall

***Knife Edge; Blame***by Simon Mayo

***The Recruit (Cherub)*** (& sequels) by R Muchamore\*

***Foul Play*** (& sequels) or ***Ghost Stadium*** - T Palmer\*

***13 Minutes*** by Sarah Pinborough

**Autobiographies/Memoirs/Biographies**

***I Know Why a Caged Bird Sings*** by M. Angelou+

***A Street Cat Named Bob*** by James Bowen\*+

***Playing the Enemy*** by John Carlin+

***In Cold Blood*** by Truman Capote+

***Hope in a Ballet Shoe:*** Michaela & Elaine DePrince

***Wave: Life After the Tsunami***by S. Deraniyagala+

***One Dog at a Time*** (& sequels) by Pen Farthing+

***Fatal Throne***: Henry VIII (multiple YA writers)

***Diary of a Young Girl*** by Anne Frank

***Marley & Me*** by John Grogan\*+

***Mud, Sweat and Tears*** by Bear Grylls\*+

***Fever Pitch*** by Nick Hornby+

***This is Going to Hurt*** by Adam Kay+

***The Story of My Life*** by Helen Keller+

***War Dog*** (WWII) by Damien Lewis+

***Today Everything Changes***by Andy McNab\*+

***Chinese Cinderella*** by Adeline Yen Mah+

***A History of the World in 21 Women***-Jenni Murray+

***The Greatest: Muhammed Ali*** by WD Myers\*

***Dreams From My Father*** by Barack Obama+

***Becoming*** by Michelle Obama+

***Persepolis*** by Marjane Satrapi (graphic novel)\*+

***Touching the Void*** by Joe Simpson\*+

***How to Be Extraordinary*** - Rashmi Sirdeshpande\*^

***Educated*** by Tara Westover+

***Night***by Elie Wiesel+

***Black Boy:A Record of Youth&Childhood***-R Wright+

***Autobiography of Malcolm X*** –MalcolmX&A Haley+

***I am Malala*** by Malala Yousafzai

**LGBTQ+ Non-Fiction:**

**From Prejudice to Pride: A History of the LGBTQ+ Movement**- Amy Lamé

**The ABC's of LGBT+:** **(Gender Identity Book for Teens, Teen & Young Adult LGBT Issues)-** A. Mardell

**Have Pride: An inspirational history of the LGBTQ+ movement**- S. Caldwell

**A Gay History of Britain: Love and Sex Between Men Since the Middle Ages**- M. Cook

**The Little Book of Pride: The History, the People, the Parades-** L. Laney

**We Make It Better: The LGBTQ Community and Their Positive Contributions to Society**- E. Rosswood

**Queer: A Graphic History:** by Meg-John Barker

**Classics (off the beaten path) & Modern Literature**

***Things Fall Apart*** by Chinua Achebe+

***Purple Hibiscus*** by Chimamanda Adichie+

***Djinn Patrol on the Purple Line*** - Deepa Anapparo+

***The Testaments; The Handmaid’s Tale*** – Atwood+

***All The Light We Cannot See*** by Anthony Doerr+

***Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha*** by Roddy Doyle

***Invisible Man*** by Ralph Ellison+

***Girl, Woman, Other*** by Bernadine Evaristo+

***Birdsong*** by Sebastian Faulks+

***Homegoing*** by Yaa Gyasi+

***The Kite Runner*** by Khalid Hosseini+

***Not Without Laughter*** by Langston Hughes+

***Brave New World*** by Alex Huxley+

***Never Let Me Go*** by Kazuo Ishiguro+

***To Kill a Mockingbird*** by Harper Lee+

***Cider With Rosie*** by Laurie Lee+

***Small Island*** by Andrea Levi+

***The Road*** by Cormac McCarthy+

***Circe*** or ***Song of Achilles*** by Madeline Miller+

***The Bluest Eye*** or ***Beloved***by Toni Morrison+

***Hamnet*** by Maggie O’Farrell+

***All Quiet on the Western Front*** by EM Remarque+

***The God of Small Things*** by Arundhati Roy+

***Anita and Me*** by Meera Syal +

***The Color Purple*** by Alice Walker+

***Nickel Boys*** by Colson Whitehead+

***Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit*** – J Winterson+

**LGBTQ+ Celebrating difference**

**Colour Outside the Lines: Stories about Love** -Sangu Mandanna

**Tomboy: A Graphic Memoir -** Liz Prince

**We Were Liars** by E. Lockhart

**Cinderella is Dead**- K.Bayron

**They Both Die at the End**- A. Silvera

**Love in the big City** by Sang Young Park

**Last Night at the Telegraph Club**- M. Lo

**This is Where It Ends**- M. Nijkamp

**Zami: A New Spelling of My Name** by Audre Lorde

**The Prophets** By Robert Jones, JR.

**Kiss of the Spider Woman** by Manuel Puig

**Cemetery Boys**- A. Thomas

**All Boys Aren’t Blue** by George M. Johnson

**Complex/Difficult/Thought-provoking Issues**

***Change is Gonna Come*** – various BAME authors

***Poet X; Clap When You Land*** by Elizabeth Acevedo^

***7 Days*** by Eve Ainsworth

**The First to Die at the End by Adam Silvera**

**They Both Die at the End by Adam Silvera**

***Simon vs the Homo Sapiens Agenda*** – B Albertalli\*

***Booked; Rebound; Crossover-***Kwame Alexander\*^

***The Hypnotist***by Laurence Anholt

***Thirteen Reasons Why***by Jay Asher

***Black Flamingo*** by Dean Atta^

***Noughts & Crosses*** or ***Boys Don’t Cry*** -M Blackman\*

***Tiger Eyes*** or anything by Judy Blume\*

***Am I Normal Yet?*** (Spinster Club series)- H. Bourne

***See Through Me****;* ***Dumb Chocolate Eyes*** - KBrooks\*

***Hate List*** by Jennifer Brown

***Junk*** *or* ***The Hit***by Melvin Burgess

***Heart-Shaped Bruise*** by Tanya Byrne

***Looking for JJ***; ***No Virgin/No Shame-***Anne Cassidy

***The Perks of Being a Wallflower***by S. Chbosky

***Stolen*** by Lucy Christopher

***The Chocolate War*** by Robert Cormier

***Toffee; One****;* ***Moonrise*** by S Crossan\*^

***Meat Market*** by Juno Dawson

***A Swift Pure Cry; Solace of the Road*** -S. Dowd

***Furious Thing; Before I Die*** by JennyDownam

***Out of My Mind*** by Sharon Draper

***Heroic; Being Billy; Saving Daisy*** by Phil Earle\*

***Mockingbird; Seeing Red*** by Kathryn Erskine

***The Universe versus Alex Woods***by G. Extence

***If I Stay*; *Just One Day*** by Gayle Forman

***Full Disclosure*** by Camryn Garrett

***After the Fire*** by Will Hill

***Looking at the Stars*** by Lewis Hine

***The Outsiders*** by SE Hinton\*

***And the Stars Were Burning Brightly*** by D Jawando

***That Asian Kid***; ***Girl in Broken Mirror*** by S Kalhan

***That’s Not What Happened*** by Kody Keplinger

***I am Thunder***; ***Kick the Moon*** - Muhammed Khan

***Rose, Interrupted***, ***Indigo Donut****,* ***Orangeboy or Eight Pieces of Silva*** by Patrice Lawrence

***Brock, Pike, Rook & Lark*** by Anthony McGowan\*

***Run, Rebel*** by Manjeet Mann^

***Out of Heart; A Beautiful Lie*** by Irfan Master

***Sister Heart*** by Sally Morgan^

***Slay*** by Brittney Morris

***The Sky is Everywhere*** or ***I’ll Give You...***by J Nelson

***No Fixed Address; Word Nerd*** by Susin Nielson

***All the Bright Places*** & ***Holding Up Universe -*** Niven

***Before I Fall****;* ***Vanishing Girls***by Lauren Oliver

***Heartstopper*** (graphic novel); ***Solitaire***-A Oseman\*

***Where the Crawdads Sing*** by Delia Owens+

***My Sister’s Keeper; Small Great Things*** -J Picoult+

***Patron Saints of Nothing*** by Randy Ribay

***Rani & Sukh; (Un)arranged Marriage; Killing Honour; The Gun\*; Stay a Little Longer\**** -Bali Rai

***Gloves Off^; Wrecked^; Black Heart Blue*** by L Reid\*

***Long Way Down^***; ***All American Boys*** - J Reynolds\*

***Extraordinary Means*** by Robyn Schneider

***The Lovely Bones*** or ***Lucky*** by Alice Sebold+

***Voyages in Underworld of Orpheus Black***-Sedgwick\*

***The Boxer*** or ***Run, Riot*** Nikesh Shukla

***Counting by 7s*** by Holly Sloan

***The Million Pieces of Neena Gill*** by E Smith-Barton

***Stone Cold*** by Robert Swindells\*

***Lies We Tell Ourselves***by Robin Talley

***Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*** by Mildred Taylor

***The Hate U Give*** or ***On the Come Up*** by A Thomas\*

***The List*** by Siobhan Vivian

***It’s Kind of a Funny Story*** by Ned Vizzini

***My Name is Leon*** by Kit de Waal

***What Momma Left Me*** by Renee Watson

***Liccle Bit*** (& sequels) or ***Uprising*** by Alex Wheatle\*

***Frankly in Love*** by David Yoon

***Teacher’s Dead, Face*** *or* ***Terror Kid*** by B Zephaniah\*

**Dystopian, Science Fiction or Magic Realism**

***Children of Blood and Bone*** by Tomi Adeyemi

***The Power*** by Naomi Alderman+

***A Jigsaw of Fire & Stars*** by Yaba Badoe

***Six of Crows***; ***Crooked Kingdom*** by Leigh Bardugo

***Exodus*** by Julie Bertagna

***Chasing the Stars*** by Malorie Blackman

***Gamer*** (& Virtual Combat series) by Chris Bradford\*

***Ink*** (& sequels) by Alice Broadway

***World War Z*** by Max 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****;* ***Front Line***(& sequels) by Michael Grant\*

***Half Bad*** (& sequels) by Sally Green

***The Deathless Girls*** by Kiran Millwood Hargrave

***Department 19***(& sequels)by Will Hill

***Raybearer*** by Jordan Ifueko

***The Loneliest Girl in the Universe*** by Lauren James

***Maladapted*** by Richard Kurti

***I Am Number Four*** (& sequels) by Pittacus Lore

***Legend***(& sequels) by Marie Lu

***The Dog Runner***; ***Across the Risen Sea***-B MacDibble

***A Blade So Black*** by L.L. McKinney

***Station 11*** by Emily Mandel+

***The Passengers; The One*** by John Marrs+

***The 100*** by Kass Morgan

***Killer T*** by Robert Muchamore

***The Knife of Never Letting Go***series; ***Burn***-P Ness

***Z For Zachariah*** by Robert O’Brien

***The Loop*** by Ben Oliver

***Replica*** or ***Delirium*** (& sequels) by Lauren Oliver

***Only Ever Yours*** by Louise O’Neill

***Divergent***(& sequels)by Veronica Roth

***Way of Kings*** (Stormlight Archive) by B Sanderson

***Plague Land*** by Alex Scarrow

***Oh My Gods*** by Alexandra Sheppard

***Scythe****,* ***Unwind*** *or* ***Dry***(& sequels) -N Shusterman

***Concentr8*** by William Sutcliffe

***An Ember in the Ashes*** (& sequels) by Sabaa Tahir

***Contagion*** or ***Slated***(& sequels)by Teri Terry

***The Martian*** by Andy Weir+

***Partials*** (& sequels) by Dan Wells

***Uglies***or ***Zeroes*** (& sequels) by Scott Westerfield

***The 5th Wave***(& sequels) by Rick Yancey

**Humorous books**

***The Princess Diaries*** by Meg Cabot\*

***A Man Called Ove*** by Fredrik Backman+

***The Private Blog of Joe Cowley*** by Ben Davis\*

***An Abundance of Katherines*** by John Green

***Noah Can’t Even;*** ***Alex in Wonderland*** - SJ Green

***The Reformed Vampire Support Group***by Jinks\*

***Hellbent*** *or* ***Henry Tumour***by Anthony McGowan\*

***Don’t Even Think About It***– Sarah Mylnowski

***Discworld***series by T Pratchett (try ***The Last Hero***)+

***Good Omens*** by Terry Pratchett and Neil Gaiman+

***Geekhood*** series by Andy Robb

***The Rosie Project*** (& sequel) by Graeme Simsion+

***The Gifted, The Talented and Me*** by W Sutcliffe

***Dark Lord: The Teenage Years*** by Jamie Thomson

***The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole*** – SueTownsend

**Relationships**

***Beautiful Broken Things*** by Sara Barnard

***Tender Earth*** by Sita Brahmachari

***Floored: When Seven Lives Collide*** (various authors)

***Fault in Our Stars*** or ***Looking for Alaska*** by J Green

***Why We Broke* *Up*** by Daniel Handler

***To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before*** by Jenny Han

***Slammed*** or ***Regretting You*** by Colleen Hoover

***Hold Back the Stars*** by Katie Khan

***Falling Fast*** (& sequels) by Sophie McKenzie

***One Day*** or ***Sweet Sorrow*** by David Nicholls+

***Unboxed; Second Best Friend*** by Nan Pratt\*

***Eleanor and Park*** *&* ***Fangirl***by Rainbow Rowell

***Written in the Stars*** by Aisha Saeed

***The Art of Racing in the Rain*** by Garth Stein+

***Shiver* or *The Raven Boys***(&sequels) - M. Stiefvater

***Our Chemical Hearts*** by Krystal Sutherland

***Paper Avalanche;*** ***The Art/Normal*** by L Williamson

***If You Come Softly*** by Jacqueline Woodson

***Everything, Everything*** & **Sun is Also a Sta**r-Yoon

**War, History, Conflict, Genocide & Refugees**

***The Short Knife*** by Elen Caldecot

***Illegal*** by Eoin Colfer (graphic novel)\*

***Copper Sun*** by Sharon M Draper

***The Bone Sparrow*** by Zana Fraillion

***An Act of Love*** or ***The Trap*** by Alan Gibbons

***Bone Talk*** by Candy Gourlay

***The Mercies*** by Kiran Millwood Hargrave+

***Orphan, Monster, Spy*** by Matt Killeen

***The Librarian of Auschwitz*** by Antonio Iturbe+

***The Beekeeper of Aleppo*** by Christy Lefteri+

***Dog Tags: Semper Fido*** or ***Strays*** by CA London\*

***Fallen Angels*** or ***Sunrise over Fallujah***-WD Myers\*

***Things a Bright Girl Can Do; Silent Stars*** - S Nicholls

***Salt to the Sea*** by Ruta Sepetys

***Maus*** by Art Spiegelman (graphic novel)\*+

***Milkweed*** by Jerry Spinelli

***Deogratius*** (graphic novel) by JP Stassen\*+

***Code Named Verity & Enigma Game*** – E Wein

***Kent State*** (verse novel) by Deborah Wiles^

***My Dear I Wanted to Tell You*** by Louisa Young

***Refugee Boy*** by Benjamin Zephaniah

***The Book Thief*** by Marcus Zusak

***\* = top picks for reluctant readers or readers who prefer visual/less dense texts. Includes some dyslexia-friendly titles; quick-paced reads of longer books***

***+ = Books written for adults; content may reflect this.***

***^ = verse novel***