



KS3 Reading list: The English department recommends...

| Book Title and Author | Topics | Synopsis |
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| They Both Die at the End By Adam Silvera | Death Science Fiction Growing Up Friendship LGBTQ Dystopia | When a service is created to tell people when they will die, teenagers Mateo and Rufus meet using the Last Friend app and are faced with the challenge of living a lifetime on their End Day. |
| Crongton Knights By Alex Wheatle | Family Life Death Bullying Council Estates Violence BLM | When Mckay strays off his council estate on a mission to help out a girl, he finds himself facing a friend's crazy ex-boyfriend, some power-tripping hood-rats and a notoriously violent gangster with a vendetta which hits too close to home. |
| Holes by Louis Sachar | Mystery Friendship Adventure | As further evidence of his family's bad fortune, which they attribute to a curse on a distant relative, Stanley is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert. |
| The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time By Mark Haddon | Absent Parents Detective Autism | When Christopher finds a neighbour's dog killed he determines to unravel the mystery. But the world is a very strange place seen through the eyes of an autistic and gifted 15-year-old boy, and Christopher soon finds out more than he could ever imagine. |
| Liccle Bit By Alex Wheatle | Gangs Love Loyalty Council Estates | As a gang war breaks out on Liccle Bit's estate, he finds himself caught up in it. Can he keep his family from danger and realise his dreams |
| Oh My Gods by Alexandra Sheppard | Family Life New Surroundings Greek Myths Romance Friendships | Half-mortal Helen has just moved in with her dorky dad and siblings, who just happen to be the ancient Greek gods! Can she keep her family's identity secret or is she fated to be banished to Mount Olympus? |
| The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins | Adventure Dystopias Survival Family Violence | In a future North America, where rulers of Panem maintain control through an annual survival competition, 16 year old Katniss's skills are tested when she voluntarily takes her sister's place. The |

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| The Colour of Magic by Terry Pratchett | Fantasy Comedy Adventure | This book is the maiden voyage through the legendary land of Discworld. This is where it all begins, with the tourist Twoflower and his wizard guide, Rincewind. |
| Private Peaceful by Micheal Morpurgo | War Family History Trauma | Private Thomas Peaceful is only eighteen but he has seen the horrors of war and experienced the full weight of its unfairness. |

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| Clean Getaway by Nic Stone | Prejudice BLM Family Life | For the life of him, William "Scoob" Lamar can't seem to stay out of trouble, and now the run-ins at school have led to a lockdown at home. |
| The Boxer by Nikesh Shukla | Prejudice Violence Racism LGBTQ Identity Boxing | Sunny's life changes the night he is attacked by racists in his new city. Stepping into a boxing gym, he finds the community he's desperately been seeking. But racial tensions are rising and he begins questioning where his new friends stand. |
| The Bone Sparrow by Zana Fraillon | Human Rights Family Life Refugees | Life inside a detention centre is all Subhi knows - he was born there, the child of a refugee. But when Jimmie, a girl from outside, starts to visit, he starts to question whether his reality is fair or humane. |
| Going Solo By Roald Dahl | Non-fiction War Travel Adventure Autobiography | Going Solo is the autobiographical sequel of Boy, which is written by the world-famous author Roald Dahl. It is about his life as a worker with the Shell Company and an RAF fighter pilot. ... |
| Everything, Everything by Nicola Yoon | Romance Health Death Journals | In a story told through vignettes, diary entries, texts, charts, lists and illustrations, a girl confined to her house by rare and profound allergies falls hopelessly in love with her new neighbour |
| The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian by Sherman Alexie | Prejudice Racism Community Diaries Growing Up | Budding cartoonist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white farm town school where the only other Indian is the school mascot. |

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| <p>Noughts and Crosses by Malorie Blackman</p> | <p>Racism Romance Sex Violence Dystopia Parental Abuse</p> | <p>In Callum's world the white noughts are second- class citizens and the black Crosses are highly revered and perceived as the superior race. Callum is a nought and his best friend, Sephy, is a Cross and the daughter of a powerful politician.</p> |
| <p>The Crossover by Kwame Alexander</p> | <p>Sports Fathers Siblings Poetry</p> | <p>Fourteen-year-old twin basketball stars Josh and Jordan wrestle with highs and lows on and off the court as their father ignores his declining health.</p> |
| <p>Booked by Kwame Alexander</p> | <p>Football Divorce Growing Up</p> | <p>Told in free verse, twelve-year-old Nick learns the power of words as he wrestles with problems at home, stands up to a bully, and tries to impress his dream girl. Helping him along are his friends and football mates, and The Mac, a rapping librarian.</p> |
| <p>The Lie Tree by Francis Hardinge</p> | <p>Mystery Death</p> | <p>When Faith's father dies under mysterious circumstances it is up to her to uncover the truth with the help of one of her father's plants: a tree that feeds on lies.</p> |

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| <p>Wonder by R.J Palacio</p> | <p>Growing Up Comedy Bullying Friendship Prejudice</p> | <p>After being home-schooled for years, Auggie Pullman is about to start fifth grade, but he's worried: How will he fit into middle-school life when he looks so different from everyone else?</p> |
| <p>20,000 Leagues Under the Sea by Jules Verne</p> | <p>Adventure Science / technology Marine life</p> | <p>A French professor and his companions, trapped aboard the fantastic submarine NAUTILUS with the deranged Captain Nemo, come face to face with exotic ocean creatures and strange sights hidden from the world above.</p> |
| <p>Dreaming in Code: Ada Byron Lovelace, Computer Pioneer by Emily Arnold McCully</p> | <p>Non-fiction Science / technology History</p> | <p>Chronicling the life and career of mathematician Ada Byron Lovelace - it reveals how the daughter of Lord Byron, the infamous Romantic poet, became the world's first computer programmer.</p> |