

Recommended Book List KS3

Title	Author	Genre	Rate	Comment
11 O'clock Chocolate Cake	Caroline Pitcher	Teen Fiction	2	Another girl centred text. Quirky approach
Abomination	Robert Swindells	Fiction	2	Touches on sensitive and difficult issues
Amazing Maurice and his Educated Rodents	Terry Pratchett	Fiction	1	Carnegie winner, A humours tale for boys and girls. Links citizenship to thinking skills
Animal Farm	George Orwell	Classic Fiction	3	Stunning political parody set in a farm yard with the animals playing the parts of people
Aquilla	Andrew Norris	Fiction	2	Award winning tale of two boys' newly acquired enjoyment of learning when they discover a magical machine
Blood Ties	Sophie McKenzie	Fiction	2	A Teenage thriller with a twist, thoroughly enjoyable.
Bloodtide	Melvin Burgess	Fiction	2	Disturbing but exciting read from this controversial author. Interesting to compare to his other novels
Book of the Banshee, The	Anne Fine	Fiction	2	Family/adolescent/survival -popular with both boys and girls
Boy :Tales of Childhood	Roald Dahl	Autobiograph y	1	Entertaining life story of the master storyteller.
Boy in the Striped Pyjamas	John Boyne	Fiction	1	Set around the time of the holocaust - a very sad read.
Buddy	Nigel Hinton	Fiction	2	A sympathetic look at the confusions of adolescence and growing up in a difficult family. Enjoyed by boys!
Bumface	Morris Gleitzman	Fiction	1	Hilarious and rude! Enjoyable for boys and girls
Carrie's War	Nina Bawden	Fiction	3	A rich plot with plenty of impressive characters
Chasing Red Bird	Sharon Creech	Fiction	2	An adventure book of real life stories full of mixed emotions.
Cherub	Robert Muchamore	Fiction	2	11 books in a very popular series of big adventure for teenage recruits. High boy appeal
Chinese Cinderella : True story of an unwanted daughter	Adeline Yen Mah	Autobiograph y	3	Multi-cultural. Autobiography dedicated to all unwanted children
Cirque du Freak	Darren Shan	Fiction	2	Schoolboy gets caught up in compelling plot. Pacey, quirky and humorous
Coram Boy	Jamila Gavin	Historical fiction	3	What did the Coram man do with the orphaned babies?
Cyrano De Bergerac	Edmond Rostand	Drama	3	Cyrano was a real person who did have a very large nose!

Dear Nobody	Berlie Doherty	Fiction	2	Diary of a teenage pregnant girl
Diving-Bell and the Butterfly	Jean-Dominique Bauby	Auto-biography	3	The story of a man who could only move one eye and dictated his autobiography by blinking.
Dragonborn	Toby Forward	Fantasy Fiction	3	A beautifully dark, atmospheric story with good strong characters
Eragon	Christophe Paolini	Fantasy Fiction	2	The first book of a series, a wonderful quest all about Dragons and a Dragon Rider
Fat Boy Swim	Catherine Fforde	Fiction	2	With strong boy and girl appeal, this is a humourous novel that will get you thinking about some serious issues.
Fatal Strand, The (Tales from the Wyrld Museum	Robin Jarvis	Fiction	2	Mysterious and weird creatures abound in this fantastic book, a great read for both boys and girls
Garbage King	Elizabeth Laird	Fiction	3	An original novel set in the streets and slums of Ethiopia.
Goodnight Mr Tom	Michelle Magorian	War Fiction	2	Heart-warming tale of the developing friendship between a young boy and an old man.
Granny Project, The	Anne Fine	Fiction	1	Mum and Dad want Granny to go into a home, the four children do not- a sometimes funny sometimes sad book about family life
Great Blue Yonder	Alex Shearer	Fiction	3	Funny and hugely thought provoking novel about dealing with death.
Hacker	Malorie Blackman	Fiction	3	This fast moving plot is set in a world of computer nuts; both engaging and moving.
Harry Potter Series	J K Rowling	Fiction	1-3	Definitive school yarns much loved by all ages
Hatchet	Gary Paulson	Fiction	2	Following an aircraft crash this book details a young person's efforts to survive
His Dark Materials Trilogy	Phillip Pullman	Science Fiction	3	Superlative story telling
Holes	Louis Sachar	Fiction	2	Appeals to girls and boys. A story of survival courage and determination
How I Live Now	Meg Roscoff	Fiction	3	A novel set in the backdrop of an undisclosed war with an American teenager getting to know her family in England. Regarded as a modern classic.
I Capture the Castle	Dodie Smith	Fiction	3	An eccentric family of sisters live in a dilapidated castle
If only I Had Known	Jenny Davis	Fiction	2	Beautifully written novel about teenage pregnancy.
Indigo's Star	Hilary MacKay			Loose sequel to Saffy's Angel - follows Indigo as he overcomes illness and dreads going back to school
Illustrated Mum, The	Jackie Wilson	Fiction	1	An uncompromising and poignant look at children dealing with mental health problems. Strong characterisation, fast plot
Junk	Melvin Burgess	Fiction	1	A powerful and convincing story of two teenagers descent into drugs

Kensuke's Kingdom	Michael Morpurgo	Fiction	1	A voyage of discovery for a teenager and his dog. A "must" read for everyone!
Kingdom by the Sea	Robert Westall	Fiction	2	A combination of the second world war and a journey of self discovery.
King of Shadows	Susan Cooper	Fiction	3	A skilful weaving of past and present as a young actor travels back in time to act alongside William Shakespeare.
Kits Wilderness	David Almond	Fiction	2	Beautifully written tale of memory, history and imagination set in a North East landscape
Long Lankin	Lindsey Barraclough	Fiction	3	A remarkable ghost story both fabulous and chilling.
Magyk	Angie Sage	Fiction	2	Warm, funny and humane, a gripping yarn to be enjoyed by boys and girls alike.
Martyn Pig	Kevin Brooks	Fiction	2	A funny and absorbing murder mystery with both high boy and girl appeal.
The Merrybegot	Julia Hearn	Fiction	2	Magical English Civil War novel with a supernatural twang!
More the Merrier, The	Anne Fine	Fiction	1	Ralph, a young boy, dreads Christmas as it means a family get together.
My Sword Hand is Singing	Marcus Sedgwick	Fiction, Horror	2	Chilling vampire tale set in 17 th Century Europe, scary stuff with high appeal to boys.
Noughts and Crosses	Malorie Blackman	Fiction	3	Love across a racial divide. Hard hitting and uncompromising.
Oracle, The	Catherine Fisher	Fiction	2	Adventure and Mythology
Other Side of Truth, The	Beverly Naidoo	Fiction	3	A book encouraging the understanding of why some people flee their own country. Explores themes of liberty and humanity.
Outsiders	S.E.Hinton	Fiction	3	A Stunning study of hate, violence, loyalty and friendship set in the gang lands of New York
Prince of Mist	Carlos Ruiz Zafon	Fiction	3	A perfect novel for exploring the fantasy-horror genre and analysing narrative structure
Raging Quiet	Sherryl Jordan	Fiction	2	Beautifully written book about the problems than can arise through a lack of understanding, highly recommended
Refugee Boy	Benjamin Zephaniah	Narrative Fiction	1	Skilfully Easy. Story of a young boy coming to England to escape violence in Eritrea.
Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry	Mildred D. Taylor	Fiction	3	Brilliant book recalling the terrible repression of black people in 1930's
Ruby in the Smoke	Philip Pullman	Fiction	3	The first Sally Lockhart story, a Victorian thriller.
Saffy's Angels	Hillaty McKay	Fiction	1	A life affirming look at adoption and self discovery. Good for reluctant readers.
Silver Sword	Ian Serailier	Fiction	3	A classic story about war and survival with definite boy and girl appeal.
Skellig	David Almond	Fiction	1	A journey in understanding for both characters and reader.

Stargirl	Jerri Spinelli	Fiction	2	Brilliant novel about a teenager daring to be different in an American High School. Highly recommended
Stone Cold	Robert Swindells	Fiction	2	A good novel for creating empathy in the reader. Appeals to both male and female readers.
Storm Catchers	Tim Bowler	Fiction	2	A realistic story line with a twist of magic, highly entertaining and appeals equally to boys and girls
Stormbreaker	Anthony Horowitz	Fiction	2	Action packed, Alex Rider in another great yarn.
Stravaganza: City of Masks	Mary Hoffman	Fiction	2	Time Slip. The first of a thrilling series of magic, madness and mystery.
There's a Boy in the Girl's Bathroom	Louis Sacha	Fiction	1	A highly comical book detailing difficult times and friendships, appeals to boys.
Thursdays Child	Sonya Hartnett	Fiction	3	This is a stunning story filled with metaphor and symbolism
Tough Luck	Berlie Doherty	Fiction	2	All about a secondary school and the life of a class of year 9
Tribes	Art Wolfe	Adventure Fiction	1	A story of gangs appealing to boys.
Tribes	Catherine MacPhail	Fiction	2	A gripping insight into the power of gang culture and it's consequences. High appeal to boys
The Tulip Touch	Anne Fine	Fiction	1	An absorbing and disturbing contribution to the debate on the nature of evil.
Two Weeks with the Queen	Morris Gleitzman	Fiction	1	Humorous and touching tale of a boy trying to save his brother's life by unconventional means.
Uglies	Scott Westerfield	Fiction	2	Set in the future where plastic surgery is taken to extreme, a riveting thriller
Village by the Sea	Anita Desai	Fiction	3	A wonderful novel which tells the story of two young people in a small fishing village in India
Walkabout	James Vance Marshall	Fiction	3	A story written in the 1950's about a boy and a girl lost in the Australian outback after a plane crash.
Wind Singer, The	William Nicholson	Fantasy/ Fiction	2	First in a fantasy trilogy. A rich opportunity to explore symbolism in a very entertaining novel
Witch Child	Celia Rees	Fiction	1	Complex and absorbing tale written in a diary form.
Wolf Brother	Michelle Paver	Fiction	2	A Thrilling adventure of hunter-gatherers, tribes and superstitions, a real page turner with high boy appeal
Wolf	Gillian Cross	Fiction	1	A strong thriller with roots in the tale of Little Red Riding Hood.