

# Recommended Reading List

## KS3



TITLE	AUTHOR	DESCRIPTION
<b>ACTION AND ADVENTURE</b>		
Noughts and Crosses	Malorie Blackman	Two young people are forced to make a stand in this thought-provoking look at racism and prejudice in an alternate society.
Hacker	Malorie Blackman	The story of Victoria Gibson, a girl adopted into the Gibson family when her parents died. Her adoptive father is accused of attempting to steal one million pounds from the bank he works at.
Chasing the Stars	Malorie Blackman	Olivia - Vee - and her brother Aidan are trying to get back to Earth after a mystery virus killed everyone, including their parents, on their ship.
Wonder	R. J Palicio	A powerful story of a 10-year-old boy named August Pullman, who has a facial anomaly.
Walkabout	J. Vance Marshall	Two children, survivors of a plane crash, journey across the Australian desert helped by an Aboriginal boy.
The Outsiders	S. E Hinton	The novel tells the story of Ponyboy Curtis and his struggles with right and wrong in a society in which he believes that he is an outsider.
Divergent	Veronica Roth	In an attempt to prevent the outbreak of war, humankind broke into five different 'factions'.
Private Peaceful	Michael Morpurgo	A story about a soldier's experiences, set in the First World War
Holes	Louis Sachar	A miscarriage of justice sends Stanley to a juvenile prison to dig 'holes.
Middle World	J&P Voelkel	The story focuses on the Maya culture and traditions as the characters battle to prevent the evil forces of an ancient empire from destroying today's world.
<b>HISTORICAL</b>		
Once	Morris Gleitzman	A Jewish boy named Felix lived in Poland and is on a quest to find his book-keeper parents after he sees Nazis burning the books from a Catholic orphanage in which had stayed at for 3 years.
Roll of Thunder, Hear my Cry	Mildred. D Taylor	The story of the Logan family, African American farmers living in Mississippi in the 1930s. The Logans successfully battle racism to keep their land and stay together as a family.
The Night Diary	Veera Hiranandani	Recounts the partition of India into two separate countries, India, and Pakistan, through the eyes of a twelve-year-old half-Hindu and half-Muslim girl named Nisha.
The Red Ribbon	Lucy Adlington	Red ribbon is about the life of a girl who was sent to Auschwitz Birkenau during WWII, she was taken from her grandparents and taken there. Because she was a Jew.
The Executioner's Daughter	Jane Hardstaff	Moss hates her life. As the daughter of the Executioner in the Tower of London, it's her job to catch the heads in her basket after her father has chopped them off.

The Tattooist of Auschwitz	Heather Morris	Slovakian Jew, Lale Sokolov, who was imprisoned at Auschwitz in 1942, fell in love with a girl he was tattooing at the concentration camp.
The Book Thief	Markus Zusak	A story narrated by a compassionate Death who tells us about Liesel, a girl growing up in Germany during World War II.
The Boy in the Striped Pajamas	John Boyne	Though the barbed-wire fence of the camp separates them, the boys begin a forbidden friendship, oblivious to the real nature of their surroundings.
Michael Rosen's A-Z Best Children's poetry	Michael Rosen	The best children's poetry from Agard to Zephaniah
Dear Martin	Nic Stone	An Ivy League-bound African American student named Justyce who becomes a victim of racial profiling
<b>FANTASY</b>		
His Dark Materials	Phillip Pullman	Lyra Belacqua lives in a parallel world in which human souls take the form of lifelong animal companions called daemons.
Graveyard Book	Neil Gaiman	Traces the story of the boy Nobody "Bod" Owens who is adopted and reared by the supernatural occupants of a graveyard after his family is brutally murdered.
Looking Glass Wars	Frank Beddor	The story follows the conflict between Redd and Alyss Heart in their struggle for control over Wonderland.
Scavengers	Darren Simpson	The book is about a boy called Landfill who's lived his whole life as a scavenger. He was found as a baby and raised by an old man, Babagoo.
The Daughter of Smoke and Bones	Laini Taylor	Karou was raised by chimaera, or creatures that have attributes of different animals and humans.
Percy Jackson and the Lightning thief	Rick Riordan	Always trouble-prone, the life of teenager Percy Jackson gets a lot more complicated when he learns he's the son of the Greek god Poseidon.
Storm Thief	Chris Wooding	Set on a futuristic island-city known as Orokos, which is plagued by deadly "probability storms."
Harry Potter Series	J.K Rowling	Harry Potter, a boy who learns on his eleventh birthday that he is the orphaned son of two powerful wizards and possesses unique magical powers of his own.
Twilight Series	Stephanie Meyer	Edward is a vampire whose family does not drink blood, and Bella, far from being frightened, enters into a dangerous romance with her immortal soulmate.
Inkheart	Cornelia Funke	Mo and his daughter, Meggie, have the ability to bring storybook characters to life just by reading aloud.
<b>RELATIONSHIPS AND CONFLICTS</b>		
The Fault in our Stars	John Green	A young teenage girl who has been diagnosed with lung cancer and attends a cancer support group.
Stay a little longer	Bali Rai	All sweet-hearted Aman wanted was for her dad to stay a little longer, but he died before she had chance to read her special letter to him.
Can You See Me?	Libby Scott and Rebecca Westcott	A story of autism, empathy and kindness that will touch readers of all ages.
Refugee Boy	Benjamin Zephaniah	Refugee Boy tells the story of Alem, a young boy with an Ethiopian father and Eritrean mother, who is left alone in London and needs all his courage as he faces up to the British justice system.
A Jigsaw of Fire and Stars	Yaba Badoe	A magical realism novel that follows fourteen-year-old Sante and her friends as they live off the grid and travel around Europe.
Little Women	Louisa May Alcott	<u>text</u> The story tells of how the sisters grow up, find love and find their place in the world. <u>19<sup>th</sup> century text</u>

The Other Side of Truth	Beverley Naidoo	When twelve-year-old Sade's mother is killed, she and her little brother Femi are forced to flee from their home in Nigeria to Britain.
The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole	Sue Townsend	The book follows him through the year of 1981 and a bit of 1982, starting with his new year's resolutions including "stopping squeezing my spots" and "vowing to never drink alcohol... after hearing disgusting noises from downstairs last night."
Me before You	Jojo Moyes	Me Before You tells the story of the quirky Louisa Clark, who unfortunately lost her job and is seeking a new one. This is how she crosses paths with Will Traynor, who devastatingly became paralysed after a motorcycle accident.
Coram Boy	Jamila Gavin	Otis takes babies and money off desperate mothers, promising to deliver them to the Coram Foundling Hospital in London.
<b>MYSTERY AND THRILLER</b>		
One of Us is Lying	Karen M. Mcmanus	Follows five high school students who enter detention, where one of them dies under suspicious circumstances and an investigation ensues.
Long Way Down	Jason Reynolds	Determined to avenge his 19-year-old brother's death, Will, age 15, takes his brother's gun out of their shared bedroom to kill the person he's certain is the murderer, but it's a long way down in the elevator.
The Ruby in the Smoke	Phillip Pullman	Determined to discover the truth about what happened to her father, Sally is soon plunged into a dangerous and terrifying adventure that takes her to the dark heart of Victorian London.
Dream Travellers	Sherry Ashworth	A twelve year-old boy who feels alone and full of fear when he stumbles on an ancient book that draws him into another world.
Murder most Unladylike	Robin Stevens	Daisy and Hazel are best friends at Deepdean School for Girls, a boarding school. It is 1934 and the wannabe detectives having set up their own secret detective club, the Wells and Wong detective society, and are desperate to solve a meaningful case.
The Ghost Factory	Jenny McCartney	The Troubles turned Northern Ireland into a ghost factory: as the manufacturing industry withered, the death business boomed.
If you were Me	Sam Hepburn	Forced to flee Afghanistan or face execution by the Taliban, Aliya and her family are still reeling from the shock of being resettled on a run-down London estate when her brother is implicated in what appears to be a terrorist plot.
Sherlock Holmes	Arthur Conan Doyle	When a string of brutal murders terrorizes London, it doesn't take long for legendary detective Sherlock Holmes and his crime-solving partner, Dr Watson to find the killer. <u>19<sup>th</sup> century text</u>
1984	George Orwell	A Dystopian novel. Oceania which is governed by the all-controlling Party, which has brainwashed the population into unthinking obedience to its leader, Big Brother.
<b>HORROR</b>		
Coraline	Neil Gainman	While exploring her new home, a girl named Coraline discovers a secret door, behind which lies an alternate world that closely mirrors her own but, in many ways, is better.
Dead Gorgeous	Malorie Blackman	When the mysterious stranger shows up at Nova's parents' hotel, she thinks her luck has changed – until she realizes she's the only one who can see him. Liam explains he's been here a long time. And he can never leave, no matter how hard he tries.
Frankenstein	Mary Shelley	A gifted scientist, Victor Frankenstein who succeeds in giving life to a being of his own creation. <u>18<sup>th</sup> century text</u>
Room 13	Robert Swindell	Fliss has a bad dream on the eve of going on her school year's weeklong trip to Whitby, only to see that the dream is coming true as the week goes on.
Demonata Collection	Darren Shan	The books detail their fight against the demon master Lord Loss, his many demon familiars and the mysterious Shadow, who promises to destroy the human universe and to even stop death.
The Woman in Black	Susan Hill	Kipps discovers that his late client's house is haunted by the spirit of a woman who is trying to find someone and something she lost, and that no one -- not even the children -- is safe from her terrible wrath.

The Haunting	Margaret Mahy	Barney Palmer, a shy eight-year-old boy, discovers that one person in each generation of his family has had supernatural gifts – and this generation it seems to be him.
<b>CLASSICS</b>		
Animal Farm	George Orwell	A group of farm animals who rebel against their human farmer, hoping to create a society where the animals can be equal, free, and happy.
I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings	Mary Angelo	The book chronicles her life from age 3 through age 16, recounting an unsettled and sometimes traumatic childhood that included racism.
The Secret Garden	Frances Hodgson Burnett	An orphaned girl discovers a magical garden hidden at her strict uncle's estate. <a href="#">19<sup>th</sup> century text</a>
Wuthering Heights	Emily Bronte	It concerns two families of the landed gentry living on the West Yorkshire moors, the Earnshaws and the Lintons, and their turbulent relationships with Earnshaw's foster son, Heathcliff. <a href="#">19<sup>th</sup> century text</a>
Oliver Twist	Charles Dickens	The story begins in a Victorian workhouse. Oliver Twist is a young orphan. His life in the workhouse is lonely and sad. <a href="#">19<sup>th</sup> century text</a>
The Great Gatsby	F. Scott Fitzgerald	Tells the tragic story of Jay Gatsby, a self-made millionaire, and his pursuit of Daisy Buchanan, a wealthy young woman whom he loved in his youth.
Pride and Prejudice	Jane Austen	Follows the turbulent relationship between Elizabeth Bennet, the daughter of a country gentleman, and Fitzwilliam Darcy, a rich aristocratic landowner. <a href="#">19<sup>th</sup> century text</a>
The Tell-Tale Heart	Edgar Allan-Poe	A Gothic story about a deranged boarder who had to kill his landlord, not for greed, but because he possessed an "evil eye." The killer is never seen but his presence is felt by the use light-and-shadow to give the impression of impending disaster. <a href="#">19<sup>th</sup> century text</a>
Jane Eyre	Charlotte Bronte	Jane has many obstacles in her life - her cruel and abusive Aunt Reed, the grim conditions at Lowood school, her love for Rochester and Rochester's marriage to Bertha. <a href="#">19<sup>th</sup> century text</a>
Lord of the Flies	William Goulding	A group of young boys who find themselves alone on a deserted island.
Alice in Wonderland	Lewis Carroll	The story centres on Alice, a young girl who falls asleep in a meadow and dreams that she follows the White Rabbit down a rabbit hole. <a href="#">19<sup>th</sup> century text</a>
Great Expectations	Charles Dickens	Great Expectations follows the childhood and young adult years of Pip a blacksmith's apprentice in a country village. <a href="#">19<sup>th</sup> century text</a>
War of the Worlds	H. G Wells	The War of the Worlds chronicles the events of a Martian invasion as experienced by an unidentified male narrator and his brother. <a href="#">19<sup>th</sup> century text</a>
<b>NON-FICTION</b>		
You can do it: How to find your voice	Marcus Rashford	Marcus uses the power of his voice to shine a light on the injustices that he cares passionately about, and now he wants to help YOU find the power in yours!
Louis Hamilton: My story	Lewis Hamilton	Given a grounded upbringing by his dedicated father in unremarkable Stevenage, Lewis talks about how he first tried out go-karting while on a cut-price family holiday in Ibiza.
Unbelievable	Jessica Ennis	A journey from a bullied schoolgirl to record-breaking Olympian
Anne Frank: The diary of a young girl	Anne Frank	It tells the story of her family who live in Frankfurt, Germany and suddenly have to go into hiding as a result of Hitler and the Nazi Party's treatment of Jews in Europe during the second world war.

Behind the mask	Tyson Fury	An unflinching autobiography from the greatest boxer of our time and a man who has demonstrated strength of a very different kind by conquering his demons.
Mud, Sweat and Tears	Bear Grylls	Autobiography of the famous adventurer/risk-taker
I am Malala	Malala Yousafzai	The remarkable tale of a family uprooted by global terrorism, of the fight for girls' education, of a father who, himself a school owner, championed and encouraged his daughter to write and attend school, and of brave parents who have a fierce love for their daughter in a society that prizes sons.