Recommended Reads for Key Stage 4

**Action, Mysteries, Horror & Thrillers**

*Famous Last Words* or *Bad Girls Don’t Die*— Alender
*Bodyguard: Hostage* (& sequels) by C. Bradford*
*Dead Time* (& sequels) by Anne Cassidy
*Mortal Chaos, Speed Freaks, The Everest Files* or *Lie, Kill, Walk Away* by Matt Dickinson*
*A Gathering Light* by Jennifer Donnelly
*The Curious Incident of the Dog...* by Mark Haddon
*The Enemy* (& sequels) by Charlie Higson*
*House of Silk* or *Moriarty* by Anthony Horowitz
*Sawbones* (& sequel) by Catherine Johnson
*The Long Weekend* by Savita Kalhan
*We Were Liars* by E Lockheart
*Here We Lie, Sweetfreak, Blood Ties* or *Girl Missing* (& sequels) by Sophie McKenzie
*One of Us is Lying* by Karen McManus
*The New Recruit* or *Dropzone* by Andy McNab*
*I am Still Alive* by Kate Marshall
*Blame or Itch* (& sequels) by Simon Mayo
*The Recruit (Cherub), The Escape (Henderson’s Boys)* or *Rock War* (& sequels) by R Muchamore*
*Daniel X, Maximum Ride* or *Confessions of Murder Suspect* series by James Patterson*
*13 Minutes* by Sarah Pinborough
*Remade* or *TimeRiders* (& sequels) - Alex Scarrow*
*The Monsters We Deserve* by Marcus Sedgwick
*Murder Most Unladylike* (& sequels) - R Stevens

**Autobiographies/Memoirs**

*I Know Why a Caged Bird Sings* by M. Angelou
*A Street Cat Named Bob* by James Bowen*
*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*
*Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank
*In Real Life* by Joey Graceffa
*Marley & Me* by John Grogan*
*Mud, Sweat and Tears* by Bear Grylls*
*Fever Pitch* by Nick Hornby
*The Story of My Life* by Helen Keller
*Finding Gobi* by Dion Leonard *
*Nothing to Envy* (North Korea) by B Demick
*Today Everything Changes* by Andy McNab*
*Chinese Cinderella* by Adeline Yen Mah

**Classics & Modern Literature**

*Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe
*The Handmaid’s Tale* by Margaret Atwood
*Prize and Prejudice* or *Emma* by Jane Austen
*Great Expectations* or *Oliver Twist* by C Dickens
*Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte
*Wuthering Heights* by Emily Bronte
*Sherlock Holmes* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
*Rebecca* by Daphne du Maurier
*Lord of the Flies* by William Golding
*Tess of the D’Urbervilles* by Thomas Hardy
*Brave New World* by Alex Huxley
*Never Let Me Go* by Kazuo Ishiguro
*To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
*The Road* by Cormac McCarthy
*1984* or *Animal Farm* by George Orwell
*The Catcher in the Rye* by JD Salinger
*Dr Jekyll and Mr Hide* by RL Stevenson
*Dracula* by Bram Stoker
*The Adventures of Huck Finn* by Mark Twain
*The Once and Future King* by TH White

**Complex/Difficult Issues**

*Change is Gonna Come* – various BAME authors
*Simon vs the Homo Sapiens Agenda* – B Albertalli*
*Booked, Rebound or Crossover-* Kwame Alexander*
*Thirteen Reasons Why* by Jay Asher*
*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
*The Bunker Diary* by Kevin Brooks*
*Junk* or *The Hit* by Melvin Burgess
*Looking for JJ* or *Moth Girls* by Anne Cassidy
*The Perks of Being a Wallflower* by S. Chbosky
*Stolen* by Lucy Christopher
*The Chocolate War* by Robert Cormier
*One* or *The Weight of Water* by Sarah Crossan*
*Before I Die* by Jenny Downnam
*Out of My Mind* by Sharon Draper
*Heroic, Being Billy* or *Saving Daisy* by Phil Earle*
*Mockingbird* or *Seeing Red* by Kathryn Erskine
*The Universe versus Alex Woods* by G. Extence

*Dreams From My Father* by Barack Obama
*Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi (graphic novel)
*Touching the Void* by Joe Simpson*
*I am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai
*Night* by Elie Wiesel
If I Stay & Where She Went by G. Forman*
Fault in Our Stars, Looking for Alaska or Turtles All the Way Down by John Green*
After the Fire by Will Hill
The Outsiders by SE Hinton*
Pigeon English by Stephen Kelman
I am Thunder by Muhammed Khan
Ways to Live Forever by SallyNichols
We Are All Made of Molecules by Susin Nielsen
All the Bright Places (+ others) by Jennifer Niven
Before I Fall or Vanishing Girls by Lauren Oliver
My Sister’s Keeper or Small Great Things - J Picoult
My Sister Lives on the Mantelpiece by A. Pitcher
Lies We Tell Ourselves by Robin Talley
Extraordinary Means by Robin Schneider
The Lovely Bones by Alice Sebold
The Help by Kathryn Stockett
Stone Cold by Robert Swindells*
Anita and Me by Meera Syal
The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas*
It’s Kind of a Funny Story by Ned Vizzini
My Name is Leon by Kit de Waal
Lickle Bit (& sequels) by Alex Wheatle
The Art of Being Normal by Lara Williamson
Teacher’s Dead, Face or Terror Kid by B. Zephaniah
Conflict, War, Genocide & the Refugee Experience
The Bone Sparrow by Zana Fraillion
The Kite Runner by Khalid Hosseini
Dog Tags: Semper Fido or Strays by CA London*
All Fall Down by Sally Nichols
Fallen Angels or Sunrise over Fallujah - WD Myers*
The Red Pencil by Andrea David Pinkney
Milkweed by Jerry Spinelli
An Ember in the Ashes by Saaba Tahir
Code Name Verity by Elizabeth Wren
Refugee Boy by Benjamin Zephaniah
The Book Thief by Marcus Zusak

Dystopian & Science Fiction
Children of Blood and Bone by Tomi Adeyemi
iBoy by Kevin 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
Done (& sequels) by Michael Grant*
Department 19 (& sequels) by Will Hill
The loneliest Girl in the Universe by Lauren James
I Am Number Four (& sequels) by Pittacus Lore*
Legend (& sequels) by Marie Lu*
The Knife of Never Letting Go (& sequels) - P Ness
MetaWars: Fight for Future (&sequels) - J. Norton*
Replica or Delirium (& sequels) by Lauren Oliver
Only Ever Yours by Louise O’Neill
Divergent (& sequels) by Veronica Roth
Lord Loss or Zom-B (& sequels) by D Shan*
Scythe or Unwind (& sequels) by Neal Shusterman*
Contagion or Slated (& sequels) by Teri Terry
Uglies or Zeroes (& sequels) by Scott Westerfield
The 5th Wave (& sequels) by Rick Yancey*

Humorous books
The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy by D Adams
The Princess Diaries by Meg Cabot
Swim the Fly (& sequels) by Don Calame
The Private Blog of Joe Cowley by Ben Davis*
An Abundance of Katherines by John Green*
The Reformed Vampire Support Group by Jinks*
Hellbent or Henry Tumour by Anthony McGowan*
Don’t Even Think About It – S Mylnowski
A Midsummer Tights Dream by Louise Rennison
The Rosie Project (& sequel) by Graeme Simsion

Relationships
Beautiful Broken Things by Sara Barnard
Why We Broke Up by Daniel Handler*
Slammed by Colleen Hoover
Hold Back the Stars by Katie Khan
Falling Fast (& sequels) by Sophie McKenzie
One Day by David Nicholls
Eleanor and Park & Fangirl by Rainbow Rowell*
The Art of Racing in the Rain by Garth Stein
Shiver or The Raven Boys (&sequels) - M. Stiefvater
Our Chemical Hearts by Krystal Sutherland
If You Come Softly by Jacqueline Woodson
Everything,Everything & Sun is Also a Star-Yoon*
Girl Online (& sequels) by Zoe Sugg*

Note to parents: Many of these books are written for young adult readers (13+) or adults; this means there may be 'gritty' content. Generally by Key Stage 4 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