

Year 9 "Recommended Reading" List



ACTION AND ADVENTURE

Higson, Charlie	The Enemy (The Enemy series)	When the sickness came every adult was wiped out, and only children under 14 remain, fighting to survive.
Massey, David	Torn	Ellie, a 19yr old British army medic in Afghanistan, faces some unsettling discoveries about the realities of war.
Mayo, Simon	Itch (Itch series)	14yr old Itch loves Chemistry and is collecting all the elements in the periodic table. He finds a rare new element, and soon he and his family are in great danger as powerful dangerous people seek to take it from him.
McKenzie, Sophie	The Set-Up (Medusa Project series)	Four babies were implanted with the Medusa gene 14 yrs earlier, giving them psychic powers - to be activated now!
McNab, Andy	DropZone (Dropzone series)	17 yr old Ethan is selected to join the elite skydiving team. They are sent on covert military missions.
Ryan, Chris	Bodyguard: Hostage (Bodyguard series)	14yr old Connor is trained in surveillance, anti-ambush exercises, hostage survival and unarmed combat. His first "buddy-guard" task is to protect the President's daughter
Scarrow, Alex	Time Riders (Time Riders series)	Three teens rescued from impending death in 1912, 2010 and 2029 are used to fix broken time.

SCIENCE-FICTION/DYSTOPIA

Adams, Douglas	Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy	Earth is demolished to make way for a space by-pass. A confused Arthur Dent then finds out his friend Ford is really an alien. Together they set off on a space quest...
Blackman, Malorie	Noughts and Crosses (Noughts & Crosses trilogy)	The dark-skinned Crosses rule, the 'colourless' Noughts are the underclass. Sephy and Callum struggle for their forbidden love amidst prejudice and distrust.
Collins, Suzanne	Hunger Games (Hunger Games trilogy)	In a dystopian future the annual Hunger Games are a fight to the death on live TV. 16 year old Katniss volunteers in place of her younger sister - it's regarded as certain death.
Gardner, Sally	Maggot Moon	Standish Treadwell, a 15yr old dyslexic, and his friend Hector, discover what the brutal Motherland is hiding. For those who love conspiracy theories & dystopian novels.
Grant, Michael	Gone (Gone series)	Suddenly it's a world without adults, and normal has crashed and burned. Life as you know it ends at 15. Chaos rules, and it's a fight for survival.
Ness, Patrick	The Knife of Never Letting Go (Chaos Walking trilogy)	In a world where you can hear everyone's thoughts, Todd realises secrets have been kept from him, forcing him to run.
Westerfeld, Scott	Uglies (Uglies trilogy)	Tally can't wait to turn 16, the magic number where Uglies are transformed into Pretties, for a life of pleasure. Shay runs away to avoid this, and Tally learns some truths.

RELATIONSHIPS AND TEENAGE PROBLEMS

Blackman, Malorie	Boys Don't Cry	Dante's world is turned upside down when his ex turns up with a baby. A tale of teen fatherhood.
Brashares, Ann	Sisterhood of the Travelling Pants (Summers of the Sisterhood series)	Four friends use an old pair of jeans to unite them when they are apart. The jeans become a symbol their bond.
Brooks, Kevin	Candy	Joe is hooked from the moment he sees Candy. As the bitter truth about Candy's dangerous world emerges, Joe must decide if love and hope are worth fighting for.
Green, John	The Fault in Our Stars	Hazel has terminal cancer, & meets August at the Support Group. A tale of love and making the most of being alive.
Palacio, RJ	Wonder	Auggie was born with a severe facial deformity - he just wants to be accepted as a normal boy. An uplifting story.
Picoult, Jodie	My Sister's Keeper	Anna is a genetically selected child, created to heal her older sister's cancer. At the age of 13, after years of painful operations, she chooses to take a stand.
Sebold, Alice	The Lovely Bones	A novel of life and death, forgiveness and vengeance, memory and forgetting.
Zevin, Gabrielle	Elsewhere	Liz is killed in a hit-and-run. Her death is her new beginning.

FANTASY

Black, Holly	Tithe (Modern Faerie Tale series)	Kaye is dragged into the dangerous world of sinister, feral faeries who wreak havoc.
Canavan, Trudi	Priestess of the White (Age of Five series)	Auraya is chosen to be a Priestess of the White - the god's most powerful servants. War will test her powers.
Clare, Cassandra	City of Bones (Mortal Instruments series)	16yr old Clary witnesses a murder by teens with medieval weapons. They are Shadowhunters, driving demons from this dimension and back into their own. Clary is drawn into this dangerous world.
Eddings, David	Pawn of Prophecy (Belgariad series)	The story of a farm boy whose destiny it is to rule the world.
Kilworth, Garry	Jigsaw	On a remote jungle island Max's diary records the strange, fantastical and dangerous happenings.
Nix, Garth	Sabriel (Old Kingdom series)	Sabriel sets out on a quest to avenge the death of her father.
Sedgwick, Marcus	The Book of Dead Days	Boy and Willow try to save their friend Valarian from a fate worse than death.
Snyder, Maria V	The Poison Study (Poison Study series)	Yelanda is saved from execution by agreeing to be official food taster, risking slow poisoning.

MYSTERY, CRIME AND SUSPENSE

Brown, Dan	Angels and Demons (Robert Langdon series)	A murder mystery involving the Catholic Church and the Illuminati (prequel to The Da Vinci Code).
Cassidy, Anne	Looking for JJ	Explores the motives of the murder of a child by her best friend.
Cassidy, Anne	Story of My Life	Kenny faces the longest night of his life, which will end with a life-or-death decision.
Haddon, Mark	The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time	A boy with Asperger's syndrome investigates a dog's death.

HUMOUR

Cousins, Dave	Waiting for Gonzo	Oz is uprooted from his city friends and struggles to adapt to village life. He learns humour has its place, but life also holds moments needing maturity and understanding.
Lowery, Mark	Socks Are Not Enough	14yr old Michael discovers his parents are nudists and about to go public. Humorous agonies of a teenage boy.
Robb, Andy	Geekhood: Close Encounters of the Girl Kind	14 yr old Archie is a Geek to his core, an expert in his Role Playing games. A girl appears & his quest for her heart begins.
Thomson, Jamie	Dark Lord: The Teenage Years	13yr old Dirk Lloyd believes he is the earthly incarnation of a Dark Lord. A funny book about a very confused boy!

GHOST, HORROR AND THRILLER

Armstrong, Kelley	The Summoning (Darkest Powers series)	Chloe just wants to be like any other teenager, then she starts seeing ghosts everywhere and gets sent to a home for disturbed kids.
Meyer, Stephanie	Twilight (Twilight series)	A modern vampire romance, with werewolves.
Sedgwick, Marcus	White Crow	A dark gothic tale of obsession, good vs evil, friendship and love.
Shan, Darren	The Thin Executioner	In a harsh world of slavery and executions, a boy is sent on a quest to the lair of a mysterious god.
Smith, LJ	The Awakening (Vampire Diaries series)	Elena is drawn to mysterious new boy Stefan but he is hiding a deadly secret.

SPORT

Hale, Nick	Striker: Sudden Death (Sudden Death series)	A talented teenage footballer becomes the last line of defence against international terrorism.
Rigby, Robert	Goal! (Goal series)	A young Latino boy is spotted by an ex-scout and wins a trial with Newcastle United.
Thompson, Harry	Penguins Stopped Play	Humorous account of a global tour by a bunch of village cricketers.
Van Draanen, Wendel	Running Dream, The	Jessica loses a leg in a car accident and fears her running days are over. A prosthetic leg is no barrier to success.

CLASSICS

Bronte, Emily	Wuthering Heights	The passionate tale of Catherine Earnshaw's betrayal of the founding Heathcliff.
Doyle, Arthur Conan	Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes	Holmes and Dr Watson solve some of their most famous cases.
Hardy, Thomas	Far From the Madding Crowd	Gabriel Oak is only one of Bathsheba's three suitors, up against dashing Sergeant Troy & Farmer Boldwood.
Lee, Harper	To Kill a Mockingbird	A man struggles for justice in a town steeped in prejudice, violence and hypocrisy. Set in the Deep South, 1930's.
Wells, H G	The Time Machine	A Victorian scientist propels himself far into the future - a utopian world with a sinister secret....