

KS3 Suggested Reading List

1. Noughts and Crosses by Malorie Blackman
2. Northern Lights (His Dark Materials) by Philip Pullman
3. Holes by Louis Sachar
4. Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone by J.K. Rowling
5. The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien
6. Refugee Boy by Benjamin Zephaniah
7. The Bone Sparrow by Zana Fraillon
8. Overheard in a Tower Block by Joseph Coelho
9. Raven's Gate by Anthony Horowitz
10. You are Awesome by Matthew Syed
11. A Monster Calls by Patrick Ness
12. Wonder by A.J. Palacio
13. Illegal by Andrew Donkin and Eoin Colfer
14. Trash by Andy Mulligan
15. Booked by Kwame Alexander
16. Everything All at Once by Steven Camden
17. Blame my Brain by Nicola Morgan
18. Coram Boy by Jamilla Gavin
19. Artemis Fowl by Eoin Colfer
20. Phoenix by S.F Said
21. The Diary of Anne Frank by Anne Frank
22. The Phoenix and the Carpet by E. Nesbit
23. The Recruit by Robert Muchamore
24. Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams
25. Private Peaceful by Michael Morpurgo
26. Varjak Paw by S.F. Said
27. Carrie's War by Nina Bawden
28. Wolf Brother by Michelle Paver
29. Treasure Island by R.L. Stevenson
30. Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan

1. Noughts and Crosses by Malorie Blackman

Exploring racial prejudice through an alternative history of 21st Century Britain

2. Northern Lights (His Dark Materials) by Philip Pullman

A truly coming of age story rebelling against the powers that be.

3. Holes by Louis Sachar

Wrongly convicted of a theft he didn't commit, Stanley is sent to a youth work prison camp in the desert where he uncovers

4. Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone by J.K. Rowling

Ultimate magic school book about Harry, an outsider, who discovers he has powers he never realised and a destiny tied up with the most evil wizard of all time.

5. The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien

The prequel to the even more epic adventure series The Lord of the Rings, this installment follows Bilbo Baggins as he embarks, reluctantly, on a journey to reclaim lost treasures, take on a dragon and discover his hidden courage.

6. Refugee Boy by Benjamin Zephaniah

Alem is abandoned in London by his father, what seems like an act of betrayal is actually fueled by love and a desire for his son to live a better life away from conflict in his home countries.

7. The Bone Sparrow by Zana Fraillon

A heartbreaking and moving novel exploring the tragic topic of life trapped in a refugee camp.

8. Overheard in a Tower Block by Joseph Coelho

This short read follows a young boy as he transitions to adulthood and his experiences growing up in a tower block and observing society.

9. Raven's Gate by Anthony Horowitz

The first in The Power of Five series, this book introduces Matt, who was raised in foster care, peer pressured into robbing a warehouse and set to a rehabilitation programme. While there he uncovers a sinister secret and ancient magic.

10. You are Awesome by Matthew Syed

A funny and inspiring read with plenty of practical advice for building your confidence.

11. A Monster Calls by Patrick Ness

A story about a young boy learning to deal with grief and other struggles.

12. Wonder by R.J. Palacio

Heartwarming story that deals with personal acceptance in the face of bullying and a health condition.

13. Illegal by Andrew Donkin and Eoin Colfer

This powerful and moving graphic novel explored the plight of undocumented immigrants.

14. Trash by Andy Mulligan

A powerful story about unthinkable poverty, hope and determination. Lots of twists and turns in this relatively short read.

15. Booked by Kwame Alexander

Written in verse and instantly readable, this story follows 12 year old football star Nick as he navigates school, family drama and football matches.

16. Everything All at Once by Steven Camden

A brilliant collection of poems detailing the experience of life at secondary school.

17. Blame my Brain by Nicola Morgan

This non-fiction book helps students come to terms with the radical changes happening in their teenage brains and encourages them to take care of themselves.

18. Coram Boy by Jamilla Gavin

This moving story has distressing moments, dealing with political issues and human rights. A historical fiction book that packs quite a punch.

19. Artemis Fowl by Eoin Colfer

Follows 12 year old criminal mastermind Artemis as he embarks on dangerous adventures into the fantasy world below his own.

20. Phoenix by S.F Said

A boy with the power of a star who flees earth to journey through space searching for answers.

21. The Diary of Anne Frank by Anne Frank

A true account of a family's life in hiding during the German occupation of the Netherlands during WWII

22. The Phoenix and the Carpet by E. Nesbit

Considered a classic for young readers, this book follows a group of children as they embark on epic adventures with a Phoenix and a magic carpet that grants wishes. (Please note this book was published in 1904 so it will contain language or descriptions that are considered outdated)

23. The Recruit by Robert Muchamore

Troubled teen James Choke is recruited by a top secret organisation of teenage spies. Perfect for readers of Alex Rider

24. Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams

Arthur Dent escaped Earth just as it was demolished by aliens, his reluctant journey through space revolves around finding the answer to life, the universe and everything. Which seems to hinge on the number 42.

25. Private Peaceful by Michael Morpurgo

Details the devastating impact of war on individuals and champions the power of love and loyalty.

26. Varjak Paw by S.F. Said

Considered a modern classic, this story follows Varjak, a cat descended from legendary adventures. Deals with issues of persecution, finding inner strength and discovering the wisdom of ancestors.

27. Carrie's War by Nina Bawden

A touching depiction of childhood trauma during WWII, which deals with themes of separation, friendship and growing up.

28. Wolf Brother by Michelle Paver

A page turning, epic adventure story, set in prehistory. Themes include magic and good versus evil.

29. Treasure Island by R.L. Stevenson

This epic adventure book follows a young boy, Jim, as he searches for hidden treasure and encounters pirates, castaways, tales of ghosts and much more. A cautionary tale of greed and betrayal.

30. Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan

This epic series follows Percy Jackson, a boy who has always felt out of place, as he discovers why that is. He is the son of a Greek God!