



### 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  
*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

#### Classics & Modern Literature

*Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe  
*Pride 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 Downam  
*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  
*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 Sally Nichols  
***We Are All Made of Molecules*** by Susin Nielson  
***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  
***Liccle 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  
***Gone*** (& 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*