

KHS English Faculty

Recommended Reads for Key Stage 3

Action, Adventure, Mystery & Thrillers

Storm Catchers by Tim Bowler

The Terrible Thing [...] Barnaby Brocket - John Boyne

Bodyguard or *Gamer* (& sequels) by Chris Bradford*

Alone by DJ Brazier

Mortal Chaos or *Lie, Kill, Walk Away* –M Dickinson (!)

The London Eye Mystery by Siobhan Dowd (!)

The Girl Who Stole An Elephant by Nizrana Farook

The Boy Who Flew by Fleur Hitchcock

High Rise Mystery & Mic Drop by Sharna Jackson

Girl Missing (& sequels) by Sophie McKenzie

The Recruit (& sequels) by Robert Muchamore*

Hatchet by Gary Paulsen

Ruby in the Smoke by Phillip Pullman

Wolf Wilder or *The Explorer* by Katherine Rundell

Murder Most Unladylike (& sequels) – R Stevens

Lost (Choose Your Own Adventure) -T Turner.*

Dystopian & Science Fiction

The Infinite by Patience Agbabi

Ink (& sequels) by Alice Broadway

Where the River Runs Gold by Sita Brahmachari

Gone or *BRZK* (& sequels) -Michael Grant

The Giver and *Gathering Blue* by Lois Lowry (!)

The Dog Runner by Bren Macdibble (!)

Killer T by Robert Muchamore

The Knife of Never Letting Go (& sequels)-P Ness (!)

Railhead & Mortal Engines (& sequels)-P Reeve (!)

Scythe, Unwind, Dry (& sequels) – N Shusterman (!)

Destination Earth by Ali Sparkes

Contagion or *Slated* (& sequels) by Teri Terry

The 5th Wave (& sequels) by Rick Yancey (!)

Fantasy, Magic Realism, Horror & Ghost

Children of Blood and Bone by Tomi Adeyemi

The House With Chicken Legs (&*Girl/Bear*)-S. Anderson

Asha & The Spirit Bird by Jasbinder Bilan

Mind Writer by Steve Cole*

Artemis Fowl (& sequels) by Eoin Colfer

Rumblestar by Abi Elphinstone

Who Let the Gods Out (& sequels) by Maz Evans

Ranger's Apprentice or *Brotherband* - J Flanagan

Inkheart (& sequels) by Cornelia Funke (!)

The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman (!)

Blackberry Blue by Jamila Gavin (!)

Brightstorm: A Sky-Ship Adventure by Vashti Hardy

Girl of Ink and Stars by Kiran Millwood Hargrave (!)

Skulduggery Pleasant (& sequels) by Derek Landy

Eragon (& sequels) by Christopher Paolini

Tales of Terror, Mister Creecher –Chris Priestley

Northern Lights (& sequels) by Phillip Pullman (!)

Goth Girl (& sequels) by Chris Riddell*

Mrs Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children -Riggs

Zom-B or *Cirque du Freak* (& sequels) by D. Shan*

Oh My Gods by Alexandra Sheppard (!)

Black Panther the Young Prince by Roland L Smith

The Edge Chronicles by P Stewart and C Riddell

Humorous books

Little Badman &[...] Killer Aunties - Humza Arshad (!)

Millions, Cosmic or Broccoli Boy by Frank C Boyce

The Last Kids on Earth (& sequels) by Max Brallier*

Fenway and Hattie by Victoria Cole*

Adventures of a Wimpy Vampire(&more)-T.Collins*

The 13-Storey Treehouse (& series) by A Griffiths*

Cookie & the Most Annoying Boy... by Konnie Huq*

Enginerds (& sequels) by Jarrett Lerner*

Disaster Diaries: Zombies (&sequels)-R McGeddon*

The Accidental Billionaire series- T McLaughlin

The World of Norm series by Jonathon Meres*

Accidental Trouble: Planet Omar by Zanib Mian

Middle School series by James Patterson*

Tom Gates series by Liz Pichon (dyslexia-friendly)*

Big Nate series by Lincoln Peirce*

Killer Animals series by Tracey Turner

Relationships & Tough Situations

Cyborg Cat (& sequels)- Ade Adepitan* (!)

Boy Underwater by Adam Baron (!)

Noughts and Crosses, Hacker, Boys Don't Cry or

Pig-Heart Boy by Malorie Blackman (!)

Blubber or anything by Judy Blume

Artichoke Hearts or *Jasmine Skies* -S. Brahmachari

A Pocketful of Stars by Aisha Bushby

New Kid or *Class Act* by Jerry Craft

One, Apple & Rain, Moonrise, Toffee -S Crossan (!)

Bud Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis

Stella By Starlight or *Blended* by Sharon Draper

Running on Empty by S.E. Durrant
Mind the Gap, Being Billy or Saving Daisy - P Earle*
The Many Worlds of Albie Bright –Chris Edge
Mockingbird by Kathryn Erskine (!)
Tulip Touch, Goggle Eyes or Flour Babies by A. Fine
Lenny's Book of Everything by Karen Foxlee
Check Mates & The Bubble Boy by Stewart Foster
Unstoppable by Dan Freedman*
One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams-Garcia
George by Alex Gino
Tall Story or *Shine* by Candy Gourlay
The Island at the End of Everything–KM Hargrave(!)
After the Fire by Will Hill (!)
Boy in the Tower by Polly Ho-Yen
A Different Dog by Paul Jennings*
Red Sky in the Morning by Elizabeth Laird (!)
Scarlet Ibis by Gill Lewis
Out of Heart by Irfan Master
Lark (& series) by Anthony McGowan *(!)
A Monster Calls by Patrick Ness (!)
No Fixed Address or *Word Nerd* – Susin Nielsen (!)
Wonder by R.J. Palacio (!)
Pax or *Here in the Real World* - S Pennypacker (!)
Freak the Mighty by Rodman Philbrick
Unboxed by Non Pratt *
A Good Kind of Trouble by Lisa Moore Ramee
Long Way Down, Look Both Ways, Ghost -Reynolds*(!)
Ghost Boys or *Black Brother[...]* Jewell P Rhodes (!)
Esperanza Rising by Pam Munoz Ryan
Operation Frog Effect by Sarah Scheerger
Can You See Me or *Do You Know Me*–Scott & Westcott
The Marvels or *Wonderstruck* by Brian Selznick*
The Boxer by Nikesh Shukla (!)
Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli (!)
Clean Getaway by Nic Stone
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred Taylor (!)
The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas (!)
Goldfish Boy by Lisa Thompson
The 1000 Year Old Boy by Ross Welford (!)
A Boy Called Hope by Lara Williamson
Brown Girl Dreaming or *Harbor Me* - J Woodson (!)

Sports

Booked, Crossover or Rebound – K. Alexander* (!)
Stat Man by Alan Durant *
Man of the Match (& series) by Dan Freedman

The Number 7 Shirt or *The Lion Roars* - A Gibbons*
Kick by Mitch Johnson
The Fix by Sophie McKenzie*
The Greatest: Muhammed Ali by Walter D Myers*
Ultimate Football Heroes Collection – M&T Oldfield*
Football Academy or *Foul Play* series–Tom Palmer*
Soccer Squad, Dream On (& series) by Bali Rai*
Outcasts United (young people edition) -W. St John
The Football Boy Wonder (& sequels) - Martin Smith*
Pay Attention, Carter Jones by Gary Schmidt* (!)

History, War, Conflict & Refugee Experience

Soldier Dog or *A Horse Called Hero* - Sam Angus
The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas by J Boyne (!)
Illegal by Eoin Colfer * (!)
Wolf Children, Red Shadow, Eleven Eleven -Dowswell
Under a War-Torn Sky by L.M. Elliott
Boy 87 by Ele Fountain
The Bone Sparrow by Zana Fraillion (!)
Once (& sequels) by Morris Gleitzman * (!)
Bone Talk by Candy Gourlay (!)
Grenade by Alan Gratz
*Race to the Frozen North**, *Blade and Bones* or
Sawbones by Catherine Johnson (!)
Orphan Monster Spy by Matt Killeen (!)
Inside Out and Back Again by Thanhha Lai (!)
Buffalo Soldier or *Apache* by Tanya Landman
Every Falling Star (North Korea) by Sungju Lee
Dog Tags: Semper Fido or *Strays* by C A London*
Diver's Daughter: A Tudor Story by P Lawrence
Shadow or *In the Mouth of the Wolf* -Morpurgo
Sunrise Over Fallujah by Walter Dean Myers*
A Night Divided by Jennifer Nielson
Armistice Runner or *Over the Line* by Tom Palmer*
A Long Walk to Water by Linda Sue Park
The Red Pencil by Andrea David Pinkney
Now or Never: A Dunkirk Story by Bali Rai*
The Boy at the Back of the Class by Onjali Rauf (!)
Salt to the Sea by Ruta Sepetys (!)
Eagle of the Ninth by Rosemary Sutcliffe (!)
Refugee Boy by Benjamin Zephaniah
The Book Thief by Marcus Zusak !

Note to parents: Some books from this list are written for young adult readers; this means there may be occasional 'gritty' content. Generally by Key Stage 3 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
 (!) = Writers of Colour