

The books contained in this booklet have been carefully selected from the best fiction written for children and young adults in recent years and taken from recommendations from students and teachers.

A guidance rating such as used in films has been used. Please ask the library or Mrs Clark in the English office if you have any questions about a book's suitability for you.

Another way to find high quality fiction written for children and young people is to search up the short listed books for the Carnegie book prize.

## **Books to entertain and transport you**

“Books are a uniquely portable magic.”

Stephen King

“A great book should leave you with many experiences, and slightly exhausted at the end. You live several lives while reading.”

William Styron

“Books are the plane, and the train, and the road. They are the destination, and the journey. They are home.”

Anna Quindlen

“Reading is escape, and the opposite of escape; it's a way to make contact with reality after a day of making things up, and it's a way of making contact with someone else's imagination after a day that's all too real.”

Nora Ephron

“Reading brings us unknown friends”

Honoré de Balzac

Romantic comedies

Geek Girl - Holly Smale

The It Girl– Katy Birchall

Waiting for Callback – Honor and Perdita Cargill

Flirty Dancing – Jenny McLachlan

Model Under Cover – Carina Axelsso

Dash and Lily's Book of Dares – Rachel Cohn

Contemporary romances for older readers

Am I Normal Yet – Holly Bourne (and any other novels by Holly) 12+

Moxie – Jennifer Mathieu 12+

Goodbye Perfect – Sara Barnard (and any other novel by Sara) 12+

Girlhood – Cat Clarke 12+

Holding up the Universe – Jennifer Niven 12+

Eleanor and Park – Rainbow Rowell 15+

The Sun is Also a Star – Nicola Yoon 12+

Trouble - Non Pratt 12+

When Dimple Met Rishi – Sandhya Menon 12+

Simon vs. The Homo Sapiens Agenda – Becky Albertalli 12+

Leah on the Offbeat – Becky Albertalli 12+

The Rosie Project – Graham Simsion 12+

You Before Me – JoJo Moyes

Girl Hearts Girl – Lucy Sutcliffe

Thriller/Adventure

Murder Most Unladylike – Robin Stevens

The Clockwork Sparrow – Katherine Woodfine

The Lost Twin – Sophie Cleverly

Cogheart – Peter Bunzl

Rooftoppers – Katherine Rundell

Brightstorm – Vashti Hardy

Skulduggery Pleasant – Derek Landy

One of Us – Jeannie Waudby

The Bailey Game – Celia Rees (recommended by Mrs Collinson)

Girl, Missing – Sophie McKenzie

Thrillers for older readers

We were Liars – E Lockhart 12+

Lying about Last Summer – Sue Wallman (and others) 12+

All the Bright Places – Jennifer Niven 12+

One of Us is Lying – Karen M McManus 12+

More than This – Patrick Ness 15

If I Stay – Gayle Forman 12+

Thirteen Reasons Why – Jay Asher 15+

The Girl on the Train – Paula Hawkins 15+

The Bunker Diary – Kevin Brooks

Murder on the Orient Express – Agatha Christie

Sometimes I Lie – Alice Feeney

## Contemporary fiction

The Hate You Give - Angie Thomas 12+  
One – Sara Crossan  
Saint Death – Marcus Sedgwick  
Release – Patrick Ness  
Everything/Everything – Nicola Yoon 12+  
Orangeboy – Patrice Lawrence 12+  
They Both Die at the End – Adam Silvera 12+  
I'll Give you the Sun – Jandy Nelson 12+  
The Exact Opposite of Okay – Laura Steven 15  
The Art of Being Normal – Lisa Williamson 12+  
Wintergirl – Laurie Halse Anderson 15  
My Sister Lives on the Mantelpiece – Annabelle Pitcher 12+  
Ketchup Clouds – Annabelle Pitcher 15  
Asking for It – Louise O'Neill (for older readers) 15  
Perks of Being a Wallflower – Stephen Chbosky 15  
Wing Jones – Katherine Webber 12+  
Perks of Being a Wallflower – Stephen 15+  
My Sister Lives on the Mantelpiece  
The Miseducation of Cameron Post – Emily M Danforth  
The Poet X – Elizabeth Acevedo  
The Nowhere Girls – Amy Reed  
Running Girl – Simon Mason

## Dystopian fiction/Sci-fi

The Knife of Never Letting Go – Patrick Ness 12+  
Only Ever Yours – Louise O'Neill 15  
The Loneliest Girl in the Universe – Lauren James 12+  
The Enemy – Charlie Higson  
Maggot Moon – Sally Gardner 12+  
Legend - Marie Lu  
Annihilation – Jeff VanderMeer  
The Fifth Wave – Rick Yancey  
Noughts and Crosses – Malorie Blackman 12+  
The Testing – Joelle Charbonneau  
  
Dystopian fiction for older readers  
The Power – Naomi Alderman 15 (recommended by Mr Davenport and Mrs Clark)  
The Handmaid's Tale – Margaret Atwood 15  
Never Let Me Go – Kazuo Ishiguro 15  
1984 – George Orwell 12 (recommended by Mr Lovelady)  
Brave New World – Aldous Huxley 15 (recommended by Mr Copestake and Mr Palfryman)  
Lord of the Flies – William Golding (recommended by Miss Devlin) 12  
Fahrenheit 481 – Ray Bradbury  
The Girl with All the Gifts – M R Carey  
(recommended by Mr Davenport) 15  
The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy – Douglas Adams (recommended by Mr Roberts and Mr England)

## Fantasy

## Horror/Gothic

Northern Lights – Philip Pullman (recommended by Mr England)  
The Subtle Knife – Philip Pullman (recommended by Mrs Clark)  
The Amber Spyglass – Philip Pullman (recommended by Mr England)  
La Belle Sauvage (recommended by Mrs Charlton) 15  
The Night Circus – Erin Morgenstein  
Red Queen – Victoria Aveyard (plus many others) 12+  
Throne of Glass - Sarah Maas (plus many others) 12+  
Half Bad – Sally Green 12+  
Six of Crows – Leigh Bardugo 12+  
Shadow of Bone – Leigh Bardugo 12+  
A Darker Shade of Magic – V E Schwab 12+  
Daughter of Smoke and Bone – Laini Taylor 12+  
The Cruel Prince - Holly Black 12+  
The Witch's Kiss – Katherine and Elizabeth Corr  
Children of Blood and Smoke – Tomi Adeyemi  
City of Bones - Cassandra Clare 12+  
The Raven Boys – Maggie Stiefvater  
Rivers of London – Ben Aaronovitch (recommended by Mrs Charlton) 15  
The Colour of Magic – Sir Terry Pratchett (recommended by Mr Barry)

His Swordhand is Singing = Marcus Sedgwick  
Frozen Charlotte – Alex Bell 12+  
Sleepless – Lou Morgan 12+  
Say Her Name – Juno Dawson 12+  
Darkmere – Helen Maslin 12+  
Miss Peregrine's School for Peculiar Children – Ransom Riggs  
  
Horror/Gothic fiction for older readers  
Gormenghast – Mervin Peake 12+  
Rebecca – Daphne Du Maurier (recommended by Mrs Lovelady) 12+  
The Essex Serpent – Sarah Perry 15  
The Miniaturist – Jessie Burton 12+  
The Wicked Cometh – Laura Carlie 15  
The Silent Companions – Laura Purcell 15  
The Dead Zone – Stephen King (recommended by Mr Hodgson) 15  
IT – Stephen King 15

## Historical Fiction

The Book Thief – Markus Zusak (recommended by Mrs Benson)  
Orphan Monster Spy – Matt Killeen 12+

The Lie Tree – Frances Hardinge (recommended by Mr Davenport)  
A Skinful of Shadows – Frances Hardinge  
Code Name Verity – Elizabeth Wein 12+

Things a Bright Girl Can Do – Sally Nicholls  
Salt to the Sea – Sara Sepetys  
The Earth is Singing – Vanessa Curtis  
Mary Hooper  
Once – Morris Gleitzman  
The Borrowed House – Hilda van Stockum

Historical Fiction for Older Readers

The Other Boleyn Girl – Philippa Gregory 15  
Song of Achilles – Madeline Miller 15  
Circe – Madeline Miller 15  
The White Queen – Philippa Gregory 15  
Bird Song - Sebastian Faulkes 15  
Wolf Hall – Hillary Mantel 15  
The Bear and the Nightingale – Katherine Arden 12+

Schindler's Ark – Thomas Keneally (recommended by Mr Palfryman)

## Nineteenth Century Fiction

Great Expectations – Charles Dickens  
Hard Times – Charles Dickens  
Jane Eyre – Charlotte Bronte (and many others) (recommended by Mrs Clark)  
Wuthering Heights – Emily Bronte  
The Tenant of Wildfell Hall – Anne Bronte  
Emma – Jane Austen (and many others)  
Frankenstein – Mary Shelley  
Tess of the d'Urbervilles – Thomas Hardy  
The Woman in White – Wilkie Collins  
Dracula – Bram Stoker  
The Mill on the Floss – George Eliot  
The Scarlett Letter – Nathaniel Hawthorne  
The Picture of Dorian Grey – by Oscar Wilde  
Anna Karenina – Leo Tolstoy  
Crime and Punishment - Fyodor Dostoevsky  
Resistance, Rebellion, Death – Albert Camus (recommended by Mr Musgrove)

## Twentieth Century Fiction

The Age of Innocence – Edith Warton  
Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man – James Joyce  
Mrs Dalloway – Virginia Woolf  
The Great Gatsby – F Scott Fitzgerald  
To Kill a Mockingbird – Harper Lee (recommended by Mrs Charlton, Mrs Hulme  
and Mr Nisar)  
The Bell Jar – Sylvia Plath 15  
Oranges are not the only fruit – Jeanette Winterson 15 (recommended by Mr  
Davenport)  
The Color Purple – Alice Walker 15  
Beloved – Toni Morrison 15  
In Cold Blood – Truman Capote 15  
The Catcher in the Rye – J D Salinger (recommended by Mr Osborne, Mr Nowell  
and Mr Hodgson) 12+  
One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest – Ken Kesey 15  
The Wind Up Bird – Haruki Murakami (recommended by Mr Musgrove)  
Elinor Oliphant is Completely Fine – Gail Honeyman

These are the books that staff remember having a big impact on them when they read  
them as teenagers.

Pride and Prejudice – Jane Austen (Mrs Anstey and Mr Nowell)  
I Capture the Castle – Dodie Smith (Miss Hamilton)  
Kes – Barry Hines (Miss Russell)  
Little Women – Louisa May Alcott (Ms Fathers)  
The Thorn Birds – Colleen McCullough (Mrs Ryan) 15  
Wuthering Heights – Emily Bronte (Mrs Stokes and Mrs Gillibrand)  
Rebecca – Daphne du Maurier (Mrs Gillibrand)  
The Whiteoak novels by Mazo de la Roche (Mrs Willmott)  
A Handful of Dust – Evelyn Waugh (Mrs Willmott)  
Return of the Native – Thomas Hardy (Mrs Willmott)  
A Room with a View – E M Forster (Mrs Hodgson)  
Once in a House on Fire – Andrea Ashworth (Mrs Collinson) 15  
The Van – Roddy Doyle (Mr Roberts)  
Confessions of a Justified Sinner – James Hogg (Mrs Cleary)  
How to Stop Time – Matt Haig (Mr Davenport)  
Captain Corelli's Mandolin – Louis de Berniere (Mrs Lovelady) 15  
Homegoing – Yaa Cyasi (Mr Davenport)  
Pollen – Jeff Noon (Mr Stanbra)  
Buried Alive – Arnold Bennett (Mr Musgrove)  
And Our Faces, My Heart, Brief as Photos – John Berger (Mr Musgrove)  
On the Road – Jack Kerouac (Mr Murray)  
The Sorrows of Young Werther – Johann Von Wolfgang Goethe (Mr Nowell)