**Recommended Reads:**

**Key Stage 3**

**Action & Thrillers**

***Bodyguard*** or ***Young Samurai*** (& sequels); ***Bullet Catcher*** or***Gamer*** by Chris Bradford\*

***Alone*** by DJ Brazier

***Mortal Chaos, Speed Freaks, The Everest Files*** (& sequels) or ***Lie, Kill, Walk Away*** - Matt Dickinson

***Lightning Girl*** (& sequels) by Alesha Dixon \*

***The London Eye Mystery*** by Siobhan Dowd

***Silverfin*** or ***The Enemy*** (& sequels) by C Higson

***Stormbreaker*** (& sequels) by A. Horowitz\*

***Wild Boy*** by Lloyd Jones

***Girl Missing*** (& sequels) by Sophie McKenzie

***The Recruit*** (& sequels) by R. Muchamore\*

***Hatchet*** by Gary Paulsen

***Wolf Wilder, The Good Thieves, The Explorer, Rooftoppers*** by Katherine Rundell

***Night Speakers*** or ***Carjacked*** by Ali Sparkes

***Murder Most Unladylike*** (& sequels) – R Stevens

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

**Dystopian & Science Fiction**

***Boy in the Tower*** *by Polly Ho-Yen*

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

***The Boy Who Flew*** by Fleur Hitchcock

***The Giver*** and ***Gathering Blue*** by Lois Lowry

***Legend***(& sequels) by Marie Lu

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

***MetaWars: Fight for the Future*** (&sequels)- Norton\*

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

***Remade*** (& sequels) or ***Time Riders*** - Alex Scarrow

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

***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

***Cogheart*** by Peter Bunzl

***Mind Writer*** by Steve Cole\*

***Artemis Fowl***(& sequels) by Eoin Colfer

***The Dark is Rising*** by Susan Cooper

***The Stormkeeper’s Island*** by Catherine Doyle

***Rumblestar*** by Abi Elphinstone

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

***Ranger’s Apprentice*** or ***Brotherband*** - J Flanagan

***Inkheart*** (& sequels) by Cornelia Funk

***Blackberry Blue*** by Jamila Gavin

***Girl of Ink and Stars*** by Kiran Millwood Hargrave

***Skulduggery Pleasant*** (& sequels) by Derek Landy

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

***Eragon***(& sequels)by Christopher Paolini

***Through Dead Eyes, Tales of Terror, Mister Creecher***, ***The Last of Spirits*** –C. Priestley

***Goth Girl*** (& sequels) by Chris Riddell\*

***Mrs Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children*** *-*Riggs

***Percy Jackson*** or ***Kane Chronicles*** series by Riordan

***Thunderstruck*** or ***Unleashed*** *b*y Ali Sparkes\*

***The Edge Chronicles*** by P Stewart and C Riddell

**Humorous books**

***Little Badman and the Invasion of the Killer Aunties*** by Humza Arshad & Henry White\*

***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\*

***To Be a Cat*** by Matt Haig

***Cookie & the Most Annoying Boy…*** by Konnie Huq\*

***Enginerds*** (& sequels) by Jarrett Lerner\*

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

***The Donut Diaries*** series – A McGowan\*

***The Accidental Billionaire*** series- T McLaughlin

***The World of Norm*** series by Jonathon Meres\*

***Planet Omar*** by Zanib Mian

***Timmy Failure*** series by Stephan Pastis\*

***Middle School*** seriesby James Patterson\*

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

***Big Nate*** series by Lincoln Peirce\*

***Killer Animals*** series by Tracey Turner

**Ethnicity and Identity**

**A.N.T.I.D.O.T.E** by Malorie Blackman

**Ace of Spades** by Farida Abike-Iyimide

**Arctic Hero** by Catherine Johnson

**Black and British: A Short, Essential History** by David Olusoga

**The Balck Flamingo** by Dean Atta

**Black History for Beginners** by Denise Dennis

**Bone Talk** by Candy Gourlay

***Does My Head Look Big in This?*** - R Abdel-Fattah

***Killing Honour*** *by Bali Rai*

***Starfish*** by Akemi Dawn Bowman

***The Girl Who Fell From the Sky***by Heidi Durrow

***If I Ever Get Out of Here*** by Eric Gansworth

***See No Color*** by Shannon Gibney

***Dreams From My Father*** by Barack Obama

***To Kill a Mockingbird*** by Harper Lee

***Cuba 15*** by Nancy Osa

***Mexican Whiteboy*** by Matt de la Pena

***Anita and Me*** by Myra Syal

***Gabi, A Girl in Pieces*** by Isabel Quintero

**Relationships & Tough Situations**

***Boy Underwater*** by Adam Baron

***Noughts and Crosses, Cloud Busting, Boys Don’t Cry***or ***Pig-Heart Boy*** by Malorie Blackman

***Artichoke Hearts***, ***Jasmine Skies*** or ***Where the River Runs Gold*** Sita Brahmachari

***A Pocketful of Stars*** by Aisha Bushby

***One***, ***Apple & Rain, Moonrise, Toffee*** -S Crossan

***Blended*** *or* ***Out of My Mind*** 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

***Check Mates & The Bubble Boy*** by Stewart Foster

***Unstoppable*** by Dan Freedman \*

***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\*

***Freedom: 1783*** by Catherine Johnson

***Red Sky in the Morning*** by Elizabeth Laird

***Scarlet Ibis*** by Gill Lewis

***A Monster Calls***by Patrick Ness

***Word Nerd, We Are All Made of Molecules***-Nielsen

***Wonder*** by R.J. Palacio

***Pax*** by Sarah Pennypacker

***Freak the Mighty*** by Rodman Philbrick

***My Sister Lives on the Mantelpiece***by A Pitcher

***Unboxed*** by Non Pratt \*

***Long Way Down*** by Jason Reynolds

***Esperanza Rising*** by Pam Munoz Ryan

***The Marvels*** or ***Wonderstruck*** by Brian Selznick\*

***Stargirl*** by Jerry Spinelli

***The Hate U Give*** by Angie Thomas

***Goldfish Boy*** by Lisa Thompson

***A Boy Called Hope*** by Lara Williamson

***Brown Girl Dreaming*** by Jacqueline Woodson

***Front Desk*** by Kelly Yang

**Social Justice**

***Barack Obama*** *by Brill Marlene Targ*

***Barack Obama*** *by Michael Burgan*

***Change is Gonna Come*** – various BAME authors

***Here I Stand:*** *Stories that Speak for Freedom*

***Protest:*** *Stories of Resistance*  -various authors

***Run Riot*** by Nikesh Shukla

***Terror Kid*** by Benjamin Zephaniah

**Sports**

***Booked, Crossover or Rebound –*** K. Alexander\*

**Cyborg Cat** by Ade Adepitan

***Charlie Merrick’s Misfits…*** by David Cousins\*

***Ghost*** *by Jason Reynolds*

***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\*

***Ultimate Football Heroes Collection*** – M&T Oldfield

***Football Academy*** or ***Foul Play*** series–Tom Palmer\*

***Soccer Squad*, *Dream On* (& series)** by Bali Rai\*

**War, Conflict and the Refugee Experience**

***A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Soldier Boy*** *by Ishmael Beah*

***Soldier Dog*** or ***A Horse Called Hero*** - Sam Angus

***The Boy at the Top of the Mountain*** or ***The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*** by J Boyne

***Illegal*** by Eoin Colfer \*

***Wolf Children, Red Shadow, Eleven Eleven, Auslander* & *True Stories* books** – Paul 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

***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\*

***Number the Stars*** by Lois Lowry

***The Skylarks’ War*** by Hilary McKay

***War Horse***by M 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

***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

***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 son’s teacher.***

***\** = Top picks for reluctant readers**

**Please also visit Penguin to find further books by writers of colour which are broken down into year groups according to suitability: https://uk.bookshop.org/shop/penguin**