Recommended Reads for 1st Years

| Author | Title | Publisher | Comment |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Almond, David | The Savage | Walker Books | Beautiful mix of words and pictures |
| Blade, Adam | Beast Quest | Orchard Books | Very popular – especially among boys |
| Boyne, John | The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas | Transworld | Poignant and dark. Great story |
| Donbavand, Tommy | Uniform | Barrington Stoke | Spooky mystery with an open ending |
| Grisham, John | Theodore Boone (series) | Hodder & Stoughton | Thriller. Popular with boys |
| Hurn, Roger | Mystery Mob Series | Rising Stars | Short, simple stories that revolve around a group of friends |
| Jefferies, Cindy | Fame School | Usborne | School drama. Easily accessible |
| Kiernan, Celine | Into the Grey | O'Brien Press | Challenging read for more able students |
| Kinney, Jeff | Diary of a Wimpy Kid Series | Amulet | Language is deceptively difficult. Main character is hapless and cynical. Endlessly popular. |
| McKenzie, Sophie | Girl, Missing | Simon & Schuster | Very popular series |
| Morpurgo, Michael | Warhorse | Egmont | Modern classic |
| Ness, Patrick | A Monster Calls | Walker | Tissues needed for the ending! |
| Pichon, Liz | Tom Gates is Absolutely Fantastic | Scholastic | Comic look at school life. Very funny book. For boys and girls |
| Shan, Darren | Cirque du Freak | Collins | Best series ever according to some students! |
| Walliams, David | Various titles | Harper Collins | Can't go wrong with Walliams – always funny! |

Recommended Reads for 2nd Years

| Author | Title | Publisher | Comment |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|--|
| Almond, David | A Life in Stories | Walker Books | Almond is an enchanting writer |
| Blackman, Malorie | Noughts and Crosses | Corgi Childrens | The original dystopian thriller – with racial considerations which give it added depth. Captures the imagination of students |
| Engstrom, Mikael | Thin Ice | Little Island | Lovely book about a boy finding his place in the world |
| Gibbons, Alan | Hate | Indigo | Drama based on a true story |
| Gleitzman, Morris | Once | Puffin | First in series. Always popular |
| Grant, Michael | Gone Series | Egmont | Compulsive, fast-paced mystery. Popular with boys and girls |
| Hooper, Mary | Megan | Bloomsbury | Always popular |
| Johnson, Pete | The Best Holiday Ever | Barrington Stoke | Popular easy read |
| Landy, Derek | Skulduggary Pleasant series | Harper Collins | Very popular – with boys and girls |
| Magorian, Michelle | Goodnight Mr. Tom | Puffin Classics | Moving story of WW2 evacuee |
| Muchamore, Robert | Cherub and Henderson Boys Series | Hodder | Great action books |
| Ness, Patrick | A Monster Calls | Walker Books | A young boy deals with the terminal illness of his mother – with a little help. Appeals to boys and girls |
| Palacio, R.J. | Wonder | Corgi Childrens | Original and unsentimental story about disability |
| Shan, Darren | Zom-B | Simon & Schuster | Gory and exciting zombie story for teens |
| Walliams, David | The Boy in the Dress | Harper Collins | A sensitive and funny book about being different |

Recommended Reads for 3rd Years

| Author | Title | Publisher | Comment |
|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Bradford, Chris | Young Samurai | Puffin | Very popular – especially among boys |
| Condie, Ally | Matched | Razorbill | Dystopian thriller romance |
| Dashner, James | Maze Runner | Chicken House | A wonderful adventure. Perfect for fans of the Hunger Games |
| Delaney, Joseph | Spook's Apprentice | Red Fox | Very popular with boys |
| Dowd, Siobhain | Solace of the Road | David Fickling Books | Girl runs away from foster parents in search of her mother |
| Forman, Gayle | If I Stay | Random House | Most popular among girls |
| Green, John | Looking for Alaska | Penguin | Good book about growing up |
| Green, John | The Fault in Our Stars | Penguin | Great romantic film tie-in book. Not just for girls! |
| Hinton, S.E. | The Outsiders | Penguin | Author was only 17 when this was written. About gangs |
| Kropp, Paul | Juvie | Robinswood | Action packed story. Easy to read |
| Lee, Harper | To Kill a Mockingbird | Arrow | Deals with important issues |
| McKenzie, Sophie | Falling Fast Series | Simon & Schuster | Teenage romance |
| Muchamore, Robert | The Recruit | Hodder | First book in CHERUB series about crime fighting kids |
| Mulligan, Andy | Trash | David Fickling Books | Exciting thriller |
| Lockhart, Emily | We Were Liars | Hot Key Books | Americal WASPs Island mystery |
| Parkinson, Siobhain | Bruised | Hodder | Realistic and powerful story |
| Roscoff, Meg | How I Live Now | Penguin | An exciting, futuristic story that deals with real-life issues for teens |
| Tolkien, J.R.R. | The Hobbit | Harper Collins | Always popular. Quite a difficult read. Currently popular due to films |
| Various | Cutting Edge | Ransom | 'Edgy' content. Easy reads. For boys and girls |

Recommended Reads for Senior Cycle

| Author | Title | Publisher | Comment |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Arakawa, Hiromu | Fullmetal Alchemist | Viz Media | 27 book series. Very popular |
| Berry, Julie | All the Truth That's in Me | Templar | A romantic mystery |
| Collins, Suzanne | Hunger Games | Scholastic | Great first book of a trilogy that appeals to boys and girls |
| Conan Doyle, Sir Arthur | Complete Sherlock Holmes Stories | Wordsworth | Simply well-crafted mysteries. Still accessible and compelling |
| David, Keren | When I Was Joe | Frances Lincoln | Very popular |
| Fitzgerald, F. Scott | The Great Gatsby | Penguin | Tale of excess set in the jazz age |
| Horowitz, Anthony | Stormbreaker | Walker Books | Especially popular among older boys |
| Kavanagh, Joyce | Click Click | Hachette | Non-fiction. Story of abuse. |
| McCarthy, Cormac | The Road | Picador | Post-apocalyptic story by an Irish author |
| Meyer, Stephenie | Twilight | Atom | Vampire story that girls love |
| Ness, Patrick | More Than This | Walker Books | Provocative and moving. Appeals to both boys and girls |
| Picoult, Jodi | My Sister's Keeper | Hodder & Stoughton | Popular with girls |
| Portis, Charles | True Grit | Bloomsbury | Rediscovered after the recent movie. This is a classic |
| Reeve, Philip | Mortal Engines | Scholastic | Fantastic and unusual setting |
| Roscoff, Meg | How I Live Now | Penguin | Children struggle alone after war breaks out in England |
| Roth, Veronica | Divergent Series | Harper Collins | Epic suspense trilogy. Current films making books popular |
| Rowell, Rainbow | Eleanor & Park | Orion | Romance set in the 80s |
| Rowling, J.K. | Harry Potter Series | Scholastic | Different enough from the films to still be interesting |
| Staid, Rebecca | When You Reach Me | Andersen Press | Complex but wonderfully told story |
| Zephaniah, Benjamin | Gangsta Rap | Bloomsbury | Great story. Very true to life |