

Suggested Reading for our More Able Students

Many of following books have been shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal for Teenage Fiction at some stage. They are good selection of quality, contemporary fiction for teenagers:

Acevedo, E.	Poet X (Carnegie Medal Winner 2019)	(Strict religious up-bringing, Rebellion, First love, Poetry)
Acevedo, E.	Clap When You Land	(Father, Sisters, Rich and Poor, Family ties, Emotional, Poetry)
Alexander, K.	Rebound	(Bereavement, Friendship, Grandparents, Sport, Poetry)
Anderson, S.	The House with the Chicken Legs	(Russian Legend, Mortality, Spirit world, Destiny)
Balen, K.	October, October (Carnegie Medal Winner 2022)	(Nature Vs Urban, Split family, Mud larking, Hope)
Blackman, M.	Crossfire	(Moral and social issues, racial attitudes, prejudice)
Brooks, K.	The Bunker Diary	(Over 14s only: Abduction, Cruelty, Murder)
Brooks, K.	Road of the Dead	(Supernatural, Crime, Action-packed)
Butterworth, J.	When the Mountains Roared	(Conservation, Protecting leopards, India, Adventure)
Christie, A.	4.50 from Paddington	(Classic murder mystery, Detective work)
Colfer, E.	Airman	(Inventions, Adventure)
Conaghan, B.	When Mr Dog Bites	(Over 14s Only: Living with Tourette's Syndrome, Friendship)
Cooper, S.	Ghost Hawk	(North American Indian Traditions, Ghosts, USA)
Crossan, S.	One (Carnegie Medal 2016)	(Conjoined Twin Sisters, Teenage Angst, Emotional)
Crossan, S.	The Weight of Water	(Polish girl in England, Overcoming disadvantage, Swimming)
Crossley-Holland, K.	Gatty's Tale	(Adventure, Middle Ages)
Divin, S.	Guard Your Heart	(Over 13s only: Rivalry, Northern Ireland, Romance)
Donnelly, J.	A Gathering Light	(Murder, Mystery, Set in two times)
Dowd, S.	Bog Child	(Irish Troubles, Brothers, Moral dilemma)
Dowd, S.	A Swift Pure Cry	(Touching, Alcoholism, Teenage pregnancy)
Earle, P.	When The Sky Falls	(WW2, Zoo Animals, Evacuation, Dyslexia)
Evans, L..	Wed Wabbit	(Humour, Talking Toys, Friendship, Family, Adventure)
Fine, A.	The Road of Bones	(Stalinist Russia, Bleak and dark, Political)
Fraillon, Z.	The Bone Sparrow	(Contemporary Australia, Refugees, Detention, Hope)
Gaiman, N.	The Graveyard Book	(Gothic, Ghosts, Humour)
Gardner, S.	Maggot Moon	(Conspiracy Theory, Moon Landings, Dyslexia)
Gardner, S.	Tinder	(Gothic Fairy-tale, Horror, History)
Gourlay, C.	Bone talk	(Philippines, History, Traditions, Invasion, Tribes)
Hardinge, F.	Cuckoo Song	(Sister, Evil, Fantasy, Family)
Hardinge, F.	The Lie Tree	(Victorian Murder Mystery, Science, Role of Women)
Hardinge, F.	A Skinful of Shadows	(Ghosts, Possession, Witch Hunting English Civil War, Spies)
Hartnett, S.	Midnight Zoo	(Survival, Freedom, War zone, Talking zoo animals)
Hearn, J.	Rowan the Strange	(Mental Illness, WWII, Treatment, Touching story)
Hill, W.	After The Fire	(Religious Cult, Deception., Psychiatrist, Abuse, Survival)
Hitchcock, B-S	Everyone Dies Famous in A Small Town	(Over 13s only: Multiple narratives, Small Town USA, LGBTQ)
Kennan, A.	Beast	(Foster Care, Thriller)
Lake, N.	There Will Be Lies	(Mystery, Travelling, Family, N.Am Indians Mythology)
Landman, T.	Buffalo Soldier	(Slavery, Civil War, Survival, Fast-paced, Emotional)
Mann, M.	The Crossing	(Over 14s only: Emotional, Refugee, 2 voices, LGBTQ, Verse)
Mann, M.	Run, Rebel	(Patriarchal Oppression, Quest for Freedom, Diversity, Poetry)
McGaughrean, G.	The Middle of Nowhere	(Australia, Hardship, Remoteness)
McGaughrean, G.	Where the World Ends (Carnegie Winner 2018)	(Historical, Survival, Hardship, Society breakdown)
McGowan, A.	Lark (Carnegie Winner 2020)	(Quick Read, Brothers, Hardship, Family breakdown)
Millard, G.	The Stars at Oktober Bend	(Outcasts, Friendship, Trauma, Soldiers, Poetry)

Mulligan, A.	Trash	(Third World setting, Rich and Poor, Thriller)
Ness, P.	The Knife of Never Letting Go	(Fantasy, World where thoughts are noise, Pt 1 of 3)
Ness, P.	A Monster Calls	(Death of a mum, Bullying, Sad but very well written)
Ness, P.	More Than This	(Thriller, Dystopia, Sci-Fi)
Ness, P.	Release	(Over 16s Only) , LGBT themes, First love. Sensitively written)
Ness, P.	The Rest of Us Just Live Here	(Teenagers, School leavers, USA, Friendship, Vampires)
Nicholls, S.	Things a Bright Girl Can Do	(Women, Suffragettes, World War I, LGBT Themes)
Peet, M.	Tamar	(WWII secret agent missions, Historical)
Peet, M. & Rosoff, M.	Beck	(Over 16s only: Child abuse, Discrimination, Journey, Survival)
Reeve, P.	Here Lies Arthur	(Arthurian Legend with a new edge)
Reeve, P.	Railhead	(Futuristic, Travel, Heist, Gangs, Trains, Sci-Fi)
Reynolds, J.	Long Way Down	(‘Gangsta’ culture, Murder, Revenge, Poetry, 60 seconds)
Rosoff, M.	Just In Case	(Young Adult, Modern “Catcher in the Rye”)
Saunders, K.	Five Children on The Western Front	(E. Nesbit saga contd! Growing Up, WW1, Fantasy, Siblings)
Saunders, K.	The Land of Neverendings	(Fantasy, Funny, Talking Toys, Bereavement, School)
Sedgwick, J.	Tsunami Girl	(Hiroshima, Disaster, Grandfather/Grand-daughter, Manga)
Sedgwick, M.	Book of Dead Days + sequels	(Fantasy, Horror, Magic, Good Vs Evil)
Sedgwick, M.	The Ghosts of Heaven	(Humanity, Philosophy, Short Stories, Spirals)
Sedgwick, M. & J.	Voyages in the Underworld of Orpheus Black	(WW2, Poetry and Prose, Brothers, London, Blitz)
Sutcliffe, W.	The Wall	(Thriller, Middle East)
Sepetys, R.	Between Shades of Grey	(Siberian Labour Camp, Emotional)
Sepetys, R.	Salt to the Sea	(Carnegie Medal 2017) (WW2, Based on Truth, Disaster, Emotional, Hard-hitting)
Talley, R.	The Lies We Tell Ourselves	(Racism, Equal Rights, Sexuality, Coming of Age, 1950s USA)
Thomas, A.	The Hate U Give	(Racism, Shooting, Black American Rights, Family, School)
Valentine, J.	Fire Colour One	(Arson, Outcast, Broken Family, Art, Friendship)
Wallace, J.	Out of the Shadows	(Zimbabwe, Racism, Peer Pressure)
Wheatle, A.	Cane Warriors	(Over 14s only) : Slavery, Fight for freedom, Jamaica, Brutal)
Winspear, J.	Birds of A Feather	(Maisie Dobbs, Psychologist, Investigator, Crime, Mystery)
Wolk, L.	Beyond the Bright Sea	(Family ties, Adoption, Relationships, Prejudice)
Wolk, L.	Wolf Hollow	(Pennsylvania, Bullying, Secrets, Outcast, Honesty, Family)
Zoboi, I.	Punching The Air	(Over 14s only) : Racism, Oppression, Identity, Injustice, Verse)

Substantial fantasy, with sequels...

Baldacci, D	Vega Jane	(Female Hero, Adventure, Epic thriller)
Eddings, D.	Belgariad Trilogy	(Quest, Fantasy, Action and Adventure)
Funke, C.	Ink Heart	(Adventure, Fantasy)
Golding, J.	Secrets of the Sirens	(Sea Creatures, Good Vs Evil)
Gordon, R.	Tunnels	(Exploration, Other world, with sequels)
Hearn, L.	Across the Nightingale Floor	(Warriors, Japan, Ninjas, Good vs Evil, ‘Tales of The Otori’ Pt 1)
Landy, D.	Skulduggery Pleasant	(Crime, Humour)
Ness, P.	Knife of Never Letting Go	(Fantasy, Adventure, ‘Chaos Walking Trilogy’ Pt1)
Nicholson, W.	The Wind Singer	(Good Vs Evil in fantasy setting)
Paolini, C.	Eragon	(Dragons, Adventure, ‘Inheritance’ Series Pt 1)
Paver, M.	Wolf Brother	(Timeless adventure, ‘Chronicles of Ancient Darkness’ Pt 1)
Pullman, P.	Northern Lights	(Pt 1 of <i>His Dark Materials</i> Trilogy, Good Vs Evil)
Pullman, P.	Book of Dust	(Expands <i>His Dark Materials</i> , Coming of Age, Fantasy)
Reeve, P.	Mortal Engines	(Futuristic, Adventure, with Prequel and sequels)
Sapkowski, A.	The Witcher	(Netflix linked, Supernatural, Adventure)
Stroud, J.	The Amulet of Samarkand	(Quest, Magic, Djinnis)

More books to challenge...

Anderson, S.	The Girl Who Speaks Bear	
Blackman, M.	Boys Don't Cry	(Teenage pregnancy, Coming of age)
Blackman, M.	Noughts and Crosses	(Forbidden love between two races)
Boyne, J.	The Boy at the Top of the Mountain	(Hitler Youth, WW2, Thriller, Nazis)
Crossley-Holland, K.	Arthurs and the Seeing Stone	(King Arthur legend, with sequels)
Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan	Sherlock Holmes Stories	(Classic crime short stories)
Fitzpatrick, M.	On Midnight Beach	(Irish Communities, Romance, Rivalry)
Gardner, S.	I, Coriander	(Historical, London)
Garner, A.	The Owl Service	(Supernatural story)
Gavin, G.	Coram Boy	(Sinister, Set in 1700s, Stolen babies)
Lane, A.	Death Cloud	(Young Sherlock Holmes, Detective story)
McCaughrean, G.	Peter Pan in Scarlet	(Sequel to Barrie's original "Peter Pan")
Millwood Hargrave, K.	The Girl of Ink and Stars	(Magic, Myth, Adventure, Journey)
Millwood Hargrave, K.	The Way Past Winter	(Legend, Cold Climate, Journey, Survival)
Pratchett, T.	Wee Free Men	(Fantasy, Humour)
Priestley, C.	Mr Creecher	(Frankenstein-esque)
Pullman, P.	The Book of Dust + sequel	(Pt 1 - Belle Sauvage – linked to 'His Dark Materials')
Sachar, L.	Small Steps	("Holes" characters move on)
Savit, G.	Anna and the Swallow Man	(WW2, Journey, Survival, Poland and Russia)
Sepetys, R.	Fountains of Silence	(Spain, Dictatorship, Civil War, Romance)
Updale, E.	Montmorency	(Crime, Victorian London, with sequels)
Wegelius, J.	The Murderer's Ape	(Crime, Mystery, Lovable characters, Portugal)
Wooding, C.	The Haunting of Alaizabel Cray	(Sinister horror)
Zephaniah, B.	Face	(Gangs, Street culture, Racism, Friendship)
Zusak, M.	The Book Thief	(WWII, Holocaust, Germany, Page-turner)

Famous Stories 'reworked' or 'continued'

Mister Pip by Lloyd Jones

Peter Pan in Scarlet Geraldine McCaughrean

Young Bond by Steve Cole

Love, Lies and Lizzie by Rosie Rushton

Looking Glass Girl by Cathy Cassidy

Girl. Boy. Sea. by Chris Vick

<https://theculturetrip.com/middle-east/articles/the-top-10-stories-from-1001-nights/>

Four Children and It by Jacqueline Wilson

Tarzan by Andy Briggs

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang flies Again by Frank Cottrell Boyce

Great Expectations by Charles Dickens

Peter Pan by J.M. Barrie

James Bond by Ian Fleming

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen

Alice through the Looking Glass by Lewis Carroll

Arabian Nights

Five Children and It by E Nesbit

Tarzan by Edgar Rice-Burroughs

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang by Ian Fleming

Five Children on the Western Front by Kate Saunders

Katy by Jacqueline Wilson

Marly's Ghost by David Levithan

Young Sherlock series by Andrew Lane

The Evil Within by Cathy MacPhail

Step Sister by Jennifer Donnelly

Rani and Sukh by Bali Rai

***Five Children and It* by E. Nesbit**

***What Katy Did* by Susan Coolidge**

***A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens**

***Sherlock Homes short stories* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle**

***Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* by R.L. Stevenson**

Cinderella – traditional fairy tale

***Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare**

Poetry and Verse

Acevedo, E.	Poet X; Clap when You Land	(Award-winning, though-provoking)
Alexander, K.	The Crossover, Rebound	(Basketball, Father/Son bond, Illness)
Coelhi, J.	The Girl Who Turned into a Tree	(Grief, Identity, Coping, Hope)
Coleridge, S.T.	The Rime of the Ancient mariner	(Quirky Graphics tell the story)
Conaghan, B.	Weight of a Thousand Feathers	(Over 14s only, Assisted dying, LGBT themes)
Creech, S.	Heartbeat	(Story of a new baby in the family)
Crossan, S.	Toffee	(Homeless, Neglect, Memory Loss, Friendship)
Harrison, M. & Stuart-Clark, C.	A Year Full of Poems	(Month by month reflection of seasons)
Hughes, T. (ed)	By Heart – 101 Poems to remember	(Teaches how to memorize lines...)
Hulme, J.	Clouds Cannot Cover Us	(Journey of a transgender teenager)
Mann, M.	The Crossing	(Escaping persecution, Taking risks)
Mann, M.	Run Rebel	(Daughter seeks freedom from father)
McCaughrean, G.	The Canterbury Tales	(Retold in modern prose)
McNaughton, C.	Making Friends with Frankenstein	(Monstrous poems with pictures)
Noyes, A.	The Highwayman	(Full poem, beautifully illustrated)
Tennyson, Alfred Lord	The Lady of Shalott	(Full poem, beautifully illustrated)
Waters, F.	Poems Then and Now	(Classic and modern side by side)
Williams, M.	Chaucer's Canterbury Tales	(Key Tales adapted and illustrated)
Zephaniah, B.	Talking Turkeys	(Humorous, multicultural poetry)

Going the extra mile:

Classics by any of the following:

Douglas Adams, Jane Austen, The Brontes, Lewis Carroll, Wilkie Collins, Charles Dickens, Daphne Du Maurier, George Eliot, Thomas Hardy, Susan Hill, Victor Hugo, Harper Lee, Jack London, E Nesbit, Philip Pullman, JD Salinger, Mary Shelley, Muriel Spark, RL Stevenson, Bram Stoker, JRR Tolkien, Jules Verne, HG Wells, Oscar Wilde...