

Bishop Ramsey
Church of England School



KS4 Recommended Reading
2022-2023

Reading at BR

At Bishop Ramsey we encourage all our students to read often and widely.

There are many benefits to reading:

- It makes you smarter! Reading increases your vocabulary, command of English and communication skills. It increases your knowledge of the world and will support your studies.
- It improves your concentration and memory. Immersing yourself in a book can really hold your attention. Remember, your brain is a muscle and needs to be used.
- It reduces stress. Studies have shown that just six minutes of reading can reduce stress levels up to 68% It can also help you sleep better.
- It supports your emotional development. Reading books allows you to explore a range of different emotions, either through the characters themselves, or through your response to them. Reading also develops your empathy skills and can introduce you to new ideas and cultures.
- Most of all reading is fun! Books are written as entertainment, and you should enjoy them.

This reading list includes suggestions for readers of all abilities and interests, but it is not an exhaustive list. Fantastic new books are being published all the time.

As well as general suggestions there is a wider reading list linked to the units you study in English – these might be linked by genre, themes or settings.

Some of the books on the list are more challenging or have more mature themes.

If you are not enjoying a book it is perfectly fine not to finish it! There are too many great books to read ones you do not like.

Other ways to find suggestions for reading:

- Check out the Bishop Ramsey reading lists on www.lovingreading4schools.co.uk. Use the link and password below:

<https://www.lovereadingschools.co.uk/school/12251>

Password: BRlovesreading

- Browse the school library and speak to Miss Neal
- Join a public library
- Check out the Carnegie Medal winners list

[Carnegie Medal Winners – The CILIP Carnegie and Kate Greenaway Children's Book Awards](#)

- Use the Goodreads App to create your own reading lists
- Share books with your friends and family!

KS4 Suggested Reading

Mental Health

- Beautiful Broken Things by Sara Barnard
- Are We All Lemmings and Snowflakes? by Holly Bourne
- The Perks of Being a Wallflower by Stephen Chbosky
- Turtles All the Way Down by John Green
- Girl, Interrupted by Susanna Kaysen
- The Science of Breakable Things by Tae Keller
- Blame My Brain by Nicola Morgan
- The Bell Jar by Sylvia Plath
- Fangirl by Rainbow Rowell

Classics

- Little Women by Louisa May Alcott
- Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen
- Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte
- The Moonstone by Wilkie Collins
- Great Expectations by Charles Dickens
- Middlemarch by George Eliot
- The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- Sons and Lovers by D. H. Lawrence
- Brideshead Revisited by Evelyn Waugh
- Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde by R. L. Stevenson

Hot on Booktok

- Red Queen by Victoria Aveyard
- The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo by Taylor Jenkins Reid
- The Cruel Prince by Holly Black
- The House in the Cerulean Sea by T. J. Klune
- It Ends with Us by Colleen Hoover
- The Love Hypothesis by Ali Hazelwood
- We Were Liars by E. Lockhart
- Circe by Madeline Miller
- The Invisible Life of Addie La Rue by V. E. Schwab
- Uglies by Scott Westerfeld

Great YA

- Firekeeper's Daughter by Angeline Boulley
- American Royals by Katharine McGee
- A Song Below Water by Bethany C Morrow
- All The Bight Places by Jennifer Niven
- My Sister's Keeper by Jodi Picoult
- Wilder Girls by Rory Power
- Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds
- I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter by Erika L. Sanchez
- The Sun is Also a Star by Nicola Yoon

Now Read the Book

- Thirteen Reasons Why by Jay Asher
- Six of Crows by Leigh Bardugo
- Firefly Lane by Kristin Hannah
- One of Us is Lying by Karen M. McManus
- Anne of Green Gables by L. M. Montgomery
- Heartstopper by Alice Oseman
- Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens
- The Witcher by Andrzej Sapkowski
- The Vampire Diaries by L. J. Smith
- The Queen's Gambit by Walter Tevis

Prize Winners

- The Power by Naomi Alderman
- My Sister the Serial Killer by Oyinkan Braithwaite
- Shuggie Bain by Douglas Stuart
- Girl Woman Other by Bernardine Evaristo
- The Midnight Library by Matthew Haig
- An American Marriage by Tayari Jones
- The Silent Patient by Alex Michaelides
- Beloved by Toni Morrison
- All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr
- The Goldfinch by Donna Tartt

Mysteries and Thrillers

- Ace of Spades by Faridah Abike-Iyimide
- S.T.A.G.S. by M. A. Bennett
- The Rules by Tracy Darnton
- They Wish They Were Us by Jessica Goodman
- A Good Girl's Guide to Murder by Holly Jackson
- Grown by Tiffany D. Jackson
- You'll Be the Death of Me by Karen M. McManus
- The Lovely Bones by Alice Sebold
- The Girls I've Been by Tess Sharpe
- Code Name Verity by Elizabeth Wein

Dystopian Fiction

- Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury
- The Selection by Kiera Cass
- Ready Player One by Ernest Cline
- The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins
- The Maze Runner by James Dashner
- Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro
- The Road by Cormac McCarthy
- 1984 by George Orwell
- Ender's Game by Orson Scott Card
- The Day of the Triffids by John Wyndham

Non-fiction

- Bonnie and Clyde by Karen Blumenthal
- A Short History of Nearly Everything by Bill Bryson
- Amelia Lost by Candace Fleming
- A Briefer History of Time by Stephen Hawking
- A Night to Remember by Walter Lord
- The Missing by Michael Rosen
- The Five by Hallie Rubenhold
- The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot
- Hidden Figures by Margot Lee Shetterly
- We Are Displaced by Malala Yousafzai

Modern Classics

- I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou
- The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood
- The Talented Mr Ripley by Patricia Highsmith
- Brave New World by Aldous Huxley
- The Life of Pi by Yann Martel
- Wide Sargasso Sea by Jean Rhys
- The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck
- White Teeth by Zadie Smith
- The Secret History by Donna Tartt
- The Color Purple by Alice Walker

Interesting Lives

- Coming Up for Air by Tom Daley
- Up Close by Jane Goodall
- The Reason I Jump by Naoki Higashida
- Endurance by Scott Kelly
- Shoe Dog by Phil Knight
- Twelve Years a Slave by Solomon Northup
- Persepolis by Marjane Satrapi
- Will by Will Smith
- Educated by Tara Westover
- Star Child by Ibi Zoboi

Drama

- The History Boys by Alan Bennett
- Hobson's Choice by Harold Brighouse
- A Taste of Honey by Sheelagh Delaney
- The Empress by Tankia Gupta
- DNA by Dennis Kelly
- The Crucible by Arthur Miller
- Hamlet by William Shakespeare
- Othello by William Shakespeare
- Journey's End by R. C. Sherriff
- Blood Brothers by Willy Russell

GCSE English Literature Wider Reading

Macbeth

- The Invention of the Human by Harold Bloom
- Shakespeare's Macbeth by Harold Bloom
- Shakespearean Tragedy by A. C. Bradley
- William Shakespeare; A Reader's Guide by Alfred Harbage
- Twentieth-Century Interpretations of Macbeth by Terence Hawkes
- Shakespeare's Tragic Sequence by Kenneth Muir
- Shakespearean Tragedy and the Elizabethan Compromise by Paul N Siegel

A Christmas Carol

- Dickens by Peter Ackroyd
- Charles Dickens by Claire Tomalin
- The Man Who Invented Christmas by Les Standiford
- The World of Charles Dickens by Angus Wilson
- Charles Dickens and the Making of A Christmas Carol by Michael Norris
- Charles Dickens' England by David Nicholas Wilkinson
- Dickens' Christmas: A Victorian Celebration by Simon Callow

Power and Conflict Poetry

- The Not Dead by Simon Armitage
- Half-Caste by John Agard
- Songs of Innocence and Experience by William Blake
- Collected Poems by Robert Browning
- The Terrorist At My Table by Imtiaz Dharker
- Selected Poems by Carol Ann Duffy
- The Hawk in the Rain by Ted Hughes
- Collected Poems by Wilfred Owen
- The Prelude by Alfred, Lord Tennyson
- The Way I Dressed by Jane Weir

Unseen Poetry

- Collected Poems by W H Auden
- Collected Poems by Emily Dickinson
- The Waste Land by T. S. Eliot
- Howl and Other Poems by Allen Ginsberg
- Call Us What We Carry by Amanda Gorman
- Collected Poems by Langston Hughes
- Ariel by Sylvia Plath
- In a Green Night by Derek Walcott
- Leaves of Grass by Walt Whitman
- Poems, New and Collected by Wislawa Szymborska

Other useful books:

- Collins English School Dictionary
- Collins English School Thesaurus
- There are lots of revision guides for all of the topics in GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature. Publishers include Collins, CGP and York Notes for GCSE

An Inspector Calls

- J. B. Priestley: The Last of the Sages by John Alfred Atkins
- J. B. Priestley: Portrait of an Author by Susan Cooper
- J.B. Priestley: An Annotated Bibliography by Alan Edwin Day
- J.B. Priestley by A. A. Vitis
- The Vision of J.B. Priestley by Roger Fagge
- J. B. Priestley: An Informal Study of his Work by David Hughes
- J.B. Priestley, the Dramatist by Gareth Lloyd Evans
- J.B. Priestley and the Theatre by Rex Pogson