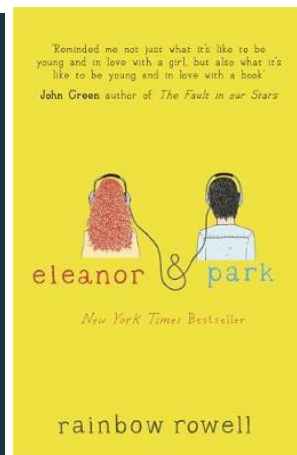
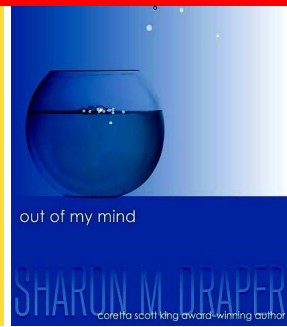
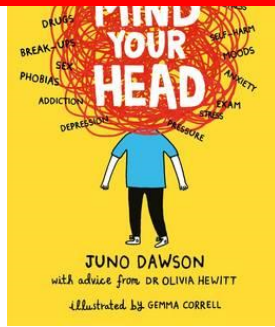
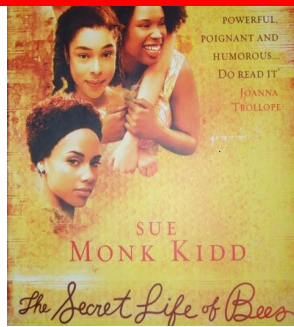


## Suggested Reading

### Year 9



<b>BOOK</b>	<b>AUTHOR</b>	<b>COMMENT</b>
<b><i>On the Edge (2014)</i></b>	<i>Nigel Hinton</i>	<i>Dillon hasn't seen his dad in two years and last time he attacked his mum. Apparently he's changed and they're heading off on holiday. Printed on paper that makes it an easier read for dyslexic students.</i>
<b><i>Girl out of Water (2016)</i></b>	<i>Nat Luurtsema</i>	<i>"To all the teens out there, this is the book to read! I had to stop myself from bursting into uncontrollable fits of giggles in class but the story felt so real that I started feeling sick when she became nervous! I recommend this book to all ages, it's hysterical and gripping at the same time. It's hard to put down."</i>
<b><i>The Recruit: first in the Cherub series (2004)</i></b>	<i>Robert Muchamore</i>	<i>A terrorist doesn't let strangers in her flat because they might be undercover police or intelligence agents, but her children bring their mates home and they run all over the place. The terrorist doesn't know that one of these kids has bugged every room in her house, made copies of all her computer files and stolen her address book. The kid works for CHERUB.</i>
<b><i>Mind Your Head (2016)</i></b>	<i>Juno Dawson</i>	<i>We all have a mind, so we all need to take care of our mental health as much as we need to take care of our physical health. And the first step is being able to talk about our mental health. Juno Dawson leads the way with this frank, factual and funny book.</i>
<b><i>Does My Head Look Big in This (2014)</i></b>	<i>Randa Abdel-Fattah</i>	<i>School is tough enough without throwing a hijab into the mix... Amal is a 16-year-old Melbourne teen with all the usual obsessions about boys, chocolate and Cosmo magazine. She's also a Muslim, struggling to honour the Islamic faith in a society that doesn't understand it.</i>
<b><i>Out of my Mind (2010)</i></b>	<i>Sharon M. Draper</i>	<i>Melody is not like most people. She cannot walk or talk, but she has a photographic memory; she can remember every detail of everything she has ever experienced. She is smarter than most of the adults who try to diagnose her and smarter than her classmates. Melody refuses to be defined by cerebral palsy.</i>
<b><i>The Art of Being Normal (2015)</i></b>	<i>Lisa Williamson</i>	<i>Two boys. Two secrets. David Piper has always been an outsider. His parents think he's gay. The school bully thinks he's a freak. Only his two best friends know the real truth - David wants to be a girl. On the first day at his new school Leo Denton has one goal - to be invisible. When Leo stands up for David in a fight, an unlikely friendship forms. But things are about to get messy.</i>
<b><i>The Weight of Water (2011)</i></b>	<i>Sarah Crossan</i>	<i>Life is lonely for Kasienska. She misses her old home in Poland, her mother's heart is breaking, and at her new English school friends are scarce. But when someone new swims into her life, Kasienska learns that there is more than one way to stay afloat.</i>

<b><i>Piecing me Together (2017)</i></b>	<i>Renee Watson</i>	<i>At her private school, Jade feels like an outsider; she has plenty of opportunities but some she doesn't really welcome, like an invitation to join a mentorship program for "at-risk" girls. She's tired of being singled out as someone people want to fix. Maybe there are some things she could show other women about understanding the world and finding ways to be real, to make a difference.</i>
<b><i>One (2015)</i></b>	<i>Sarah Crossan</i>	<i>Grace and Tippi are twins - conjoined twins. And their lives are about to change. No longer able to afford homeschooling, they must venture into the world - a world of stares, sneers and cruelty. Will they find more than that at school? Can they find real friends? And what about love?</i>
<b><i>Refugee Boy (2002)</i></b>	<i>Benjamin Zephaniah</i>	<i>Alem is on holiday with his father for a few days in London. He has never been out of Ethiopia before and is very excited. They have a great few days together until one morning when Alem wakes up in the bed and breakfast they are staying at to find the unthinkable.</i>
<b><i>My Name's Not Friday (2016)</i></b>	<i>Jon Walter</i>	<i>"This boy has bought me. This white boy who don't even look as old as I am. He owns me body and soul, and my worth has been set at six hundred dollars." Samuel's an educated boy. Been taught by a priest. He was never supposed to be a slave.</i>
<b><i>Wolf Hollow (2016)</i></b>	<i>Lauren Wolk</i>	<i>When Betty disappears, suspicion falls on strange, gentle loner Toby. As Wolf Hollow turns against him, and tensions quickly mount, Annabelle must do everything in her power to protect Toby - and to find Betty, before it is too late.</i>
<b><i>After Tomorrow (2013)</i></b>	<i>Gillian Cross</i>	<i>A dystopian thriller about survival and migration. This is a fast-paced and really gripping read that is upsetting at times.</i>
<b><i>The Great Godden (2020)</i></b>	<i>Meg Rossoff</i>	<i>This is the story of one family, one dreamy summer - the summer when everything changes. In a holiday house by the sea, in a big, messy family, one teenager watches as brothers and sisters, parents and older cousins fill hot days with wine and games and planning a wedding... a perfect summer holiday read!</i>
<b><i>Ketchup Clouds (2012)</i></b>	<i>Annabel Pitcher</i>	<i>Winner of the Waterstone's Children's Book Prize 2013, this book tells the story of one teenage girl with a very big secret. Fifteen-year-old Zoe has a secret that she can't confess to anyone she knows. But then one day she hears of a criminal, Stuart Harris, locked up on death row in Texas...</i>
<b><i>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time (2012)</i></b>	<i>Mark Haddon</i>	<i>This is a modern classic! The detective, and narrator, is Christopher Boone. Christopher is fifteen and has Autism. He loves lists, patterns and the truth. He hates the colours yellow and brown and being touched. He has never gone further than the end of the road on his own, but when he finds a neighbour's dog murdered he sets out on a terrifying journey which will turn his whole world upside down...</i>

<b>Persepolis Part 1 (2000)</b>	Marjane Satrapi	<i>Persepolis paints an unforgettable portrait of daily life in Iran and of the bewildering contradictions between home life and public life. This is a beautiful and intimate graphic novel full of tragedy and humour - raw, honest and incredibly illuminating.</i>
<b>The Fault in our Stars (2012)</b>  <b>and</b>  <b>Looking for Alaska (2013)</b>	John Green	<i>Diagnosed with Stage IV thyroid cancer at 12, Hazel was prepared to die until, at 14, a medical miracle shrunk the tumours in her lungs... for now. Enter Augustus Waters. Being with Augustus pushes Hazel to re-examine how sickness and health, life and death, will define her and the legacy left behind.</i>  <i>Another highly readable novel: this coming of age story is funny and heart-breaking. A great read!</i>
<b>Klara and the Sun (2021)</b>	Kazuo Ishiguro	<i>Klara is an Artificial Friend who narrates this dystopian science fiction novel. This is a simply written story about friendships, robots and life itself.</i>
<b>The Poet X (2018)</b>  <b>and</b>  <b>Clap When You Land (2020)</b>	Elizabeth Acevedo	<i>A novel about finding your voice and standing up for what you believe in, no matter how hard it is to say. Brave, bold and raw - dealing with issues of race, feminism and faith, it is written entirely in verse. It follows the trials and tribulations of Xiomara, a teenager growing up in a tough Harlem neighbourhood, and her creative release in the world of slam poetry.</i>  <i>A dual narrative novel in verse that is full of both grief and love, this brilliant YA read is about the devastation of loss, the difficulty of forgiveness, and the bittersweet bonds that shape our lives.</i>
<b>Out of my Mind (2010)</b>	Sharon M. Draper	<i>Melody is not like most people. She cannot walk or talk, but she has a photographic memory; she can remember every detail of everything she has ever experienced. She is smarter than most of the adults who try to diagnose her and smarter than her classmates. Melody refuses to be defined by cerebral palsy. And she's determined to let everyone know it...somehow.</i>
<b>Ash (2010)</b>	Malinda Lo	<i>This is an atmospheric, original retelling of the Cinderella fairytale. It is a story about possibility and recognizing the opportunities for change.</i>
<b>Musical Truth (2021)</b>	Jeffrey Boakye	<i>Non-fiction. A musical history of modern Black Britain in 28 songs. This is an accessible, informative and inspiring read (and listen)!</i>
<b>Needle (2022)</b>	Patrice Lawrence	<i>This is a short, profound and powerful novella about Charlene, a demon knitter and foster child who gets sucked into the criminal justice system for assault.</i>



<b>Lies we Tell Ourselves (2014)</b>	<i>Robin Talley</i>	<i>It's 1959. The battle for civil rights is raging, and it's Sarah's first day of school as a black student in a mostly all-white school. No one wants Sarah there. Not the Governor. Not the teachers. And certainly not the students - especially Linda, daughter of an ardent segregationist. Sarah and Linda are supposed to despise each other but both girls start to feel something they've never felt before. It's one thing to stand up to an unjust world - but another to be terrified of what's in your own heart...</i>
<b>The Book Thief (2006)</b>	<i>Markus Zusak</i>	<i>Liesel, a nine-year-old girl, is living with a foster family on Himmel Street. Her parents have been taken away to a concentration camp. Liesel steals books. This is her story and the story of the inhabitants of her street when the bombs begin to fall.</i>
<b>Boys Don't Cry (2010)</b>	<i>Malorie Blackman</i>	<i>You're about to receive your A-level results and then a future of university and journalism awaits. But the day they're due to arrive your old girlfriend Kendra turns up unexpectedly ...with a baby ...You assume Kendra's helping a friend, until she nips out to buy some essentials, leaving you literally holding the baby ...</i>
<b>Medusa, The Girl Behind the Myth (2022)</b>	<i>Jessie Burton</i>	<i>A fresh, fierce and feminist retelling of the ancient story of Medusa and Perseus. This is a moving story about consent, the abuse of power, beauty and ugliness. It is beautifully illustrated too!</i>
<b>Catching Teller Crow (2019)</b>	<i>Ambelin Kwaymullina and Ezekiel Kwaymullina</i>	<i>Nothing's been the same for Beth Teller since she died. Her dad, a detective, is the only one who can see and hear her, and he's drowning in grief. They have a potential witness: Isobel Catching. Aboriginal by birth, like Beth, she seems lost and isolated in the world. Her strange tale of glass-eyed monsters and stolen colours intertwines with Beth's investigation and reveals something dark and terrible at the heart of this Australian town.</i>
<b>Eleanor and Park (2013)</b>	<i>Rainbow Rowell</i>	<i>Eleanor is the new girl in town, and she's never felt more alone. All mismatched clothes, mad red hair and chaotic home life, she couldn't stick out more if she tried. Then she takes the seat on the bus next to Park.. Slowly, through late-night conversations and an ever-growing stack of mix tapes, Eleanor and Park fall in love.</i>
<b>The Rest of Us Just Live Here (2016)</b>	<i>Patrick Ness</i>	<i>Award-winning writer Patrick Ness's bold and irreverent novel powerfully asks what if you weren't the Chosen One? The one who's supposed to fight the zombies, or the soul-eating ghosts, or whatever this new thing is, with the blue lights and the death? What if you were like Mikey? Who just wants to graduate and go to prom and maybe finally work up the courage to ask Henna out...</i>

<b>Everything I Never Told You (2014)</b>	Celeste Ng	<i>A blistering novel about expectations and belonging, grief, and secrets buried in plain sight; it ripples with emotion and insight. This is a deep, heartfelt portrait of a family struggling with its place in history, and a teenager, Lydia, under pressure to be the fulfillment of that struggle.</i>
<b>Rise up: The Merky Story so far (2019)</b>	Stormzy	<i>Stormzy is one of the most promising musicians of his generation and has become a spokesperson for his generation too. Rise Up is the story of how he got there. It's a story about faith and the ideas worth fighting for. It's about knowing where you're from, and where you're going; following your dreams without compromising who you are.</i>
<b>The Secret Life of Bees (2001)</b>	By Sue Monk Kidd	<i>Lily has grown up believing she accidentally killed her mother when she was four. Now fourteen, she yearns for her mother, and for forgiveness. Living on a peach farm in South Carolina with her father, she has only one friend: Rosaleen, a black servant whose sharp exterior hides a tender heart. When racial tension explodes one summer afternoon, and Rosaleen is arrested and beaten, Lily is compelled to act...</i>
<b>Dear Martin (2018)</b>	Nic Stone	<i>Raw, captivating, and undeniably real, Nic Stone boldly tackles American race relations in this bestselling novel. Justyce is top of his class but that doesn't matter to the police officer who puts him in handcuffs. Justyce looks to the teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. for answers. But do they hold up anymore? He starts a journal to Dr. King to find out.</i>
<b>To Kill a Mockingbird (1960)</b>	Harper Lee	<i>A classic of modern American literature. Through the young eyes of Scout and Jem Finch, Harper Lee explores with exuberant humour the irrationality of adult attitudes to race and class in the Deep South of the 1930s.</i>
<b>Wide Sargasso Sea</b>	Jean Rhys (1966)	<i>Bertha Mason's story. The 'mad woman' in the attic from Jane Eyre tells her side of the story: a short, rich read.</i>
<b>Natives: Race, Class and the Ruins of Empire (2019)</b>	Akala	<i>Covering everything from the police, education and identity to politics, sexual objectification and the far right, Natives will speak directly to British denial and squeamishness when it comes to confronting issues of race and class that are at the heart of the legacy of Britain's racialised empire.</i>
<b>Dracula (1931)</b>	Bram Stoker	<i>When Jonathan Harker visits Transylvania to help Count Dracula purchase a London house, he makes horrifying discoveries in his client's castle. Soon afterwards, disturbing incidents unfold in England: a ship runs aground on the shores of Whitby, its crew vanished; beautiful Lucy Westenra slowly succumbs to a mysterious, wasting illness, her blood drained away; and the lunatic Renfield raves about the imminent arrival of his 'master'.</i>