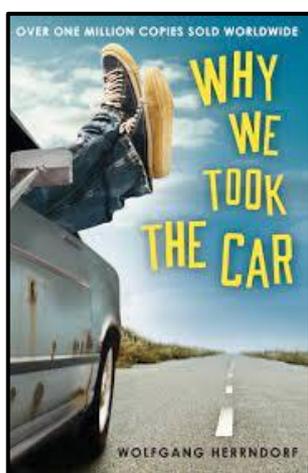
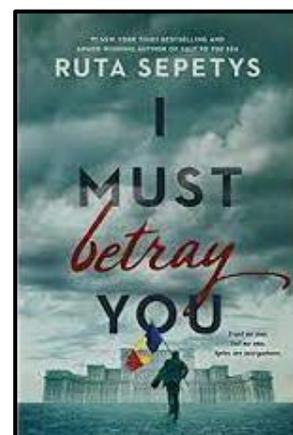


KS4 Reading List

The KS4 Reading List is a guide of recommended texts to encourage extra-curricular reading. If you require more information or help choosing books, please find Miss Ford in the library.

I Must Betray You, Ruta Sepetys

It's 1989, Romania is under Communist rule and seventeen year old Cristian is blackmailed to become an informer. He must choose between betraying everything and everyone he loves or use his newfound position to undermine evil.

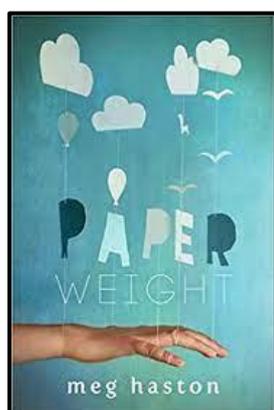
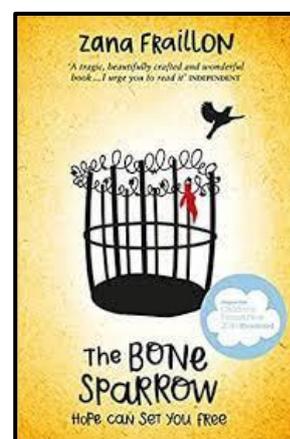


Why We Took the Car, Wolfgang Herrndorf

Mike has no friends, labelled as 'boring' by all his peers. So when he isn't invited to the biggest party of the year, he takes it upon himself to change his fate. But what can he do in one night that will change everything? Find 'Why We Took the Car' in the library.

The Bone Sparrow, Zana Fraillon

Subhi was born in a refugee camp and has never seen the outside world. When he meets a young girl who lives in the outside world, his life changes forever. This heartbreaking read skillfully navigates an extremely tragic but important topic.

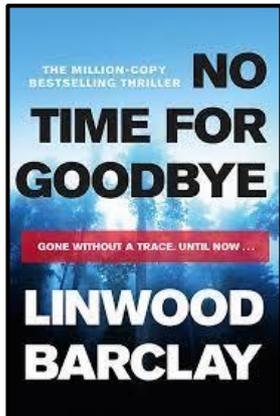
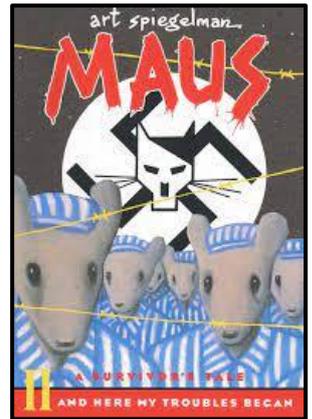


Paper Weight, Meg Hanson

Seventeen year old Stevie is battling an eating disorder which is tearing her relationships apart. When everything collapses, she ends up in therapy. This heartbreaking novel explores the emotional effects of eating disorders as Stevie enters a journey of self-knowledge

Maus, Art Spiegelman

This graphic memoir explores Spiegelman’s relationship with his father as he recounts his experience as a Jew in Nazi Germany. Through narration and illustrations his father retells his time in a concentration camp as Spiegelman attempts to articulate their complex relationship.

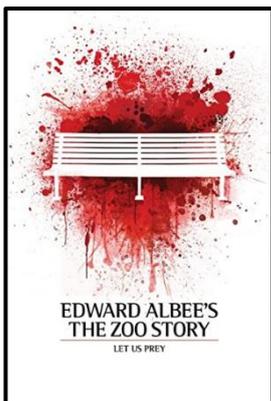
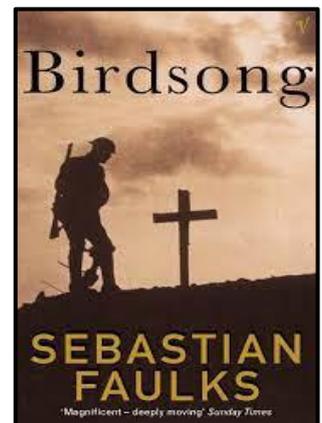


No Time for Goodbye, Linwood Barclay

When fourteen year old Cynthia’s family go missing one night, she is completely alone and desperate for an answer. Now older and with a family of her own, she finally finds something that leads to a devastating discovery.

Birdsong, Sebastian Faulks

A young Englishman arrives in Northern France and falls in love with a married woman, but on the brink of war Stephen must join the fight. This novel explores the desperate need for survival, and the love that keeps us alive.



The Zoo Story, Edward Albee

The play takes on a bench in a park with only two characters, but profoundly explores the loneliness and isolation of the modern, materialistic world.

When Shadows Fall, Sita Brahmachari

Written as a mixture of prose, narrative verse, and journal entries, this novel explores Kai’s experience with loss. As Kai gets drawn into a dangerous crowd, his friends are determined to get him back. ‘When Shadows Fall’ discusses loss, self-destruction, and the power of friendship to get you back on track.



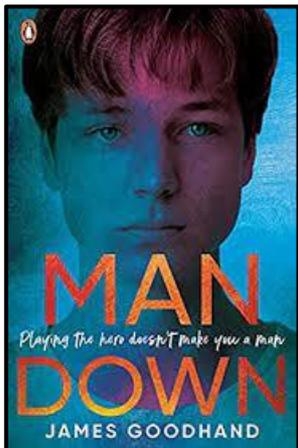
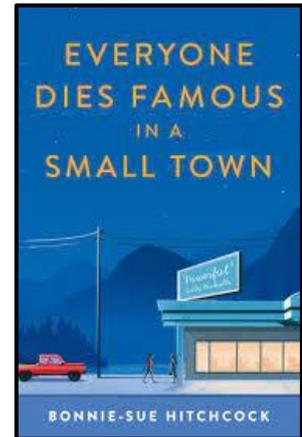


Gone, Michael Grant

When everyone in Sam's town is slowly disappearing, the ones left are looking to him for help. Reluctant and fearful to be a hero, Sam has to find the courage to step up.

Everyone Dies Famous in a Small Town, Bonnie-Sue Hitchcock

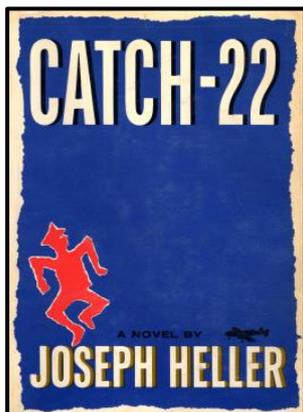
Through a collection of short stories, these troubled teens encounter loss and love. The tales tell of experiences of small communities and the struggle to get your voice heard in a town where everyone knows each other.



Man Down, James Goodhand

Will has learnt that being a man means standing up and fighting, but when a disaster approaches and will can prevent it, he learns that sometimes stepping up means manning down. This novel explores toxic masculinity, challenging the preconceived ideas of masculinity within society.

Challenging Reads:

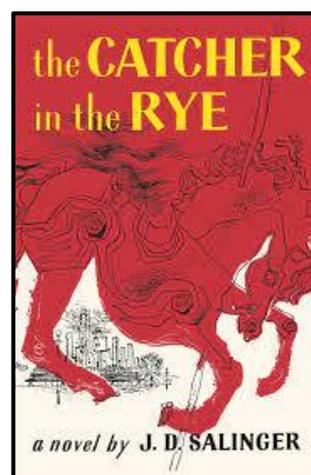


Catch 22, Joseph Heller

Set in World War Two, this classic novel explores one man's desperate attempts to not just stay alive, but stay sane. Captain Yossarian interprets the war as a personal attack and convinces himself the military is trying to send him to death. Heller explores themes of justice, greed, and personal integrity.

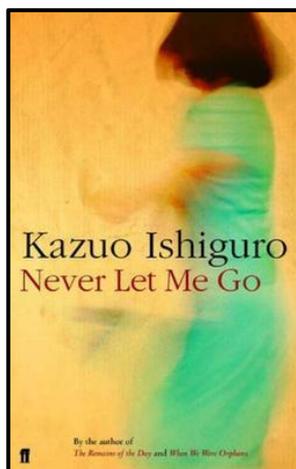
Catcher in the Rye, J.D Salinger

Salinger's classic, coming of age novel explores teenage feelings of alienation, purpose and the difficulty of entering adulthood. Find 'Catcher in the Rye' in the library.



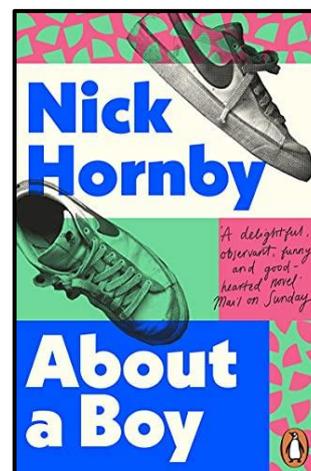
Never Let Me Go, Kazuo Ishiguro

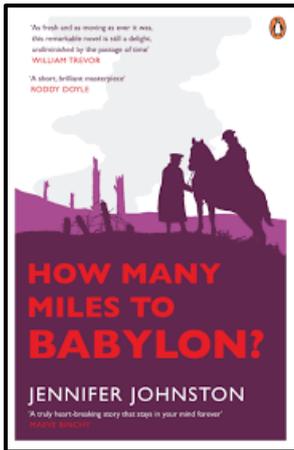
Ishiguro's award-winning novel explores the lives of children in what seems like an idyllic, secluded boarding school. As the story proceeds, a darker truth reveals; the children are kept away from society to be bred for organ donation.



About a Boy, Nick Hornby

Thirty-six year old Will is living off his father's money with no responsibilities or cares in the world. Twelve year old Marcus is an awkward outsider. When these unlikely pair meet, can they teach each other a lesson in maturity? Find 'About a Boy' in the library.





How Many Miles to Babylon, Jennifer Johnston

Johnston's novel explores the relationship between men, an Aristocrat Alexander and Jerry a lower-class labourer. Despite their differences, the two form a friendship, soon both enlisted to fight during the war. 'How Many Miles to Babylon' explores class, war, family, and the relationships that can withstand it all.