

Year 11/Post 16 wider reading list				
Author		Title	Genre	Description/Additional Comments
Helen	Fielding	Bridget Jones's Diary	Humour	A humorous peek into the world of an unmarried, thirtysomething year old with hangups about weight, smoking and the lack of a boyfriend. Laugh out loud comedy.
Peter	Ackroyd	Hawksmoor	Crime	Alternating between the 1800s and the 1980s, this detective novel is a brilliant tale of darkness and shadow. When a series of gruesome murders take place at the site of old churches designed by Sir Christopher Wren, Nicholas Hawksmoor is sent to investigate.
Nadeem	Aslam	Maps For Lost Lovers	Crime	When two young lovers go missing, Jugnu's brothers are arrested for their murders. Told over the next twelve months, the story unravels family life, love and a rich culturally diverse tale emerges. Breathtaking!
Margaret	Atwood	The Handmaid's Tale	Futuristic	Margaret Atwood's brilliant moralistic look into the future of life on Earth will remain one of the all time classics of the 20th Century
Kate	Atkinson	Behind The Scenes At The Museum	Family Life	An unusual, thought provoking and vivid account of family life at the end of the nineteenth century, this novel will captivate your interest from the very beginning.
Tash	Aw	The Harmony Silk factory	Mystery	Set in Malaysia in the 1930s and '40s, this is a tale of four personalities, an infamous Chinaman, a salesman, a fraudster and a murderer. Unravel the mystery through a series of narratives against the backdrop of the second world war.

Iain	Banks	The Wasp Factory	Gothic Horror	Strange acts of violence, bizarre rituals, a psychiatric hospital, an eccentric father and an escapee brother combine to make this an explosive debut novel, not to be missed!
Pat	Barker	Regeneration trilogy	War	A psychiatric hospital in Scotland, a place where victims of shell shock are sent for treatment and deemed fit to return to the trenches. A deeply emotive novel covering the harsh realities of a generation of young men who were traumatised by the war.
Daphne	Du Maurier	Jamaica Inn	Classic thriller	Following the death of her mother, Mary must travel to Cornwall to live with her Aunt and uncle at Jamaica Inn. Discovering her down-trodden aunt, she is powerless to help as she gets drawn into the sinister world of her brutish uncle.
Gene	Brewer	K-Pax	Mental Health	Set in a Manhattan institute on a mental ward, a man who calls himself 'Prot' tells his doctor that he is from the planet K-Pax and without a traceable background, the doctor and inmates have no option but to believe him. A fascinating concept; this novel is a brilliant read.
Bill	Bryson	A Walk in the woods	Autobiographical Adventure	Bill Bryson is one of the most humorous writers of today, his anecdotes of encounters with people and animals along his trek through the Appalachian mountains in America is hilarious. A great read.
Angela	Carter	The Bloody Chamber	Fantasy	A collection of re-worked fairy tales to challenge your perceptions. Dark and sensual and full of symbolism, this collection will certainly entertain.
Michael	Crichton	The Andromeda Strain	Thriller	Biohazard from outer space, a town in Arizona and a headache for the government as they battle with some kind of unearthly danger. A must for space horror fans!

Roddy	Doyle	The Woman Who Walked Into Doors	Domestic Abuse	Paula Spencer's attempts to rebuild her life after battling domestic abuse and a worsening drink problem. Roddy Doyle captures the essence of everyday life and turns it into excellent literature.
Charles	Frazer	Cold Mountain	War/Love	Disillusioned by the American Civil War, soldier Inman tries to make it over the mountains back to the woman he loves, Ada. Ada has her own struggles trying to keep her house and land at a time when marauding gangs run wild. This tale of strength and longing will make a lasting impression.
Dawn	French	A Tiny Bit Marvellous	Family Life	A modern family with all the ups and downs that go with it. Laugh out loud fiction at its best.
Arthur	Golden	Memoirs of a Geisha	Japanese culture	A rich and powerful tale of Japanese life in the 1930s for geisha girls. Sold as servants then trained in how to walk, talk, dress and seduce, this novel will open your eyes and mind.
John	Grisham	The Confession	Thriller	An absolutely fantastic page-turner from the king of legal thrillers. An innocent man is about to face execution for a crime he didn't commit. Only a guilty man can save him. The clock is ticking in this intense, edge of your seat thriller, definitely not to be missed!
David	Guterson	Snow Falling On Cedars	Thriller	A Japanese American man is charged with murder when a fisherman is found dead in a net. What follows is the unravelling of events following the exile of a group of Japanese residents during the second world war. Intriguing.
Mark	Haddon	A Spot of Bother	Family Life	Another funny, yet true depiction of turbulent family life. A wedding in the family is set to ruin the tranquility of a quiet life. Read to watch the events unfold in this sad but accurate tale.

Nick	Hornby	Fever Pitch	Sport	A tale of a football fanatic, the ins and outs of the game, fanatical behaviour and the way in which football can rule your life.
Khaled	Hosseini	A Thousand Splendid Suns	Human Rights	A story of friendship between two women a generation apart. Married to the same man, they share the brutality and pain with immense resilience during a time of great hardship under Taliban rule. A fantastic insight into the harsh realities of life for women in Afghanistan. A must read.
Khaled	Hosseini	The Kite Runner	Friendship	Two boys in Afghanistan come together in unlikely circumstances, both desperate to win the annual kite running contest, they form a bond. Trust, betrayal and family are strong themes running through this novel make it a heart-rending read.
Kazuo	Ishiguro	Never Let me Go	Friendship	A group of students growing up in contemporary England examined by Kathy in an attempt to relive her happy memories of school life. A tale of friendship, love and life.
James	Joyce	Dubliners	Short Stories	A rich portrayal of ordinary life in Dublin. This collection examines the diversity of individual lives with a common thread, poverty, yet the strength of spirit prevails throughout.
Thomas	Keneally	Schindler's List & Schindler's Ark	Holocaust	Oscar Schindler risked his life every day to save Jews from the Nazi's. In these novels, Keneally depicts how Schindler, a drinker, womaniser and industrialist became an angel of mercy to hundreds of Jews, saving them from Auschwitz.
Ken	Kesey	One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest	Humour	One man attempts to do battle with the nurse of a psychiatric ward who rules with an iron fist. Sad but humorous at the same time, this tale will have you empathising and laughing out loud at the same time.

Stieg	Larsson	The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo	Thriller	Crime, mystery at its best. The Vangers hide a dark family secret, one of their clan mysteriously disappeared at a family gathering 55 years earlier. Reporter Mikael and hacker Lisbeth are hot on the trail.
Laurie	Lee	Cider with Rosie	Adventure	Sensuous, rich and vibrant memoirs of life in a small English village after the first world war. A beautiful story woven with colour, sights, sounds and smells, just wonderful!
Andrea	Levy	Small Island	Racism	Queenie doesn't know if or when her husband will return from the second world war so she takes in lodgers, from Jamaica. The neighbours are not at all happy and so begins the struggle against prejudice.
Carson	McCullers	The Heart Is A Lonely Hunter	Relationships	A lonely group of people are drawn to a deaf-mute, each telling their story to him. A rich pattern of people woven together in this moving and honest tale of life and hardship.
Ian	McEwan	Atonement	Relationships	On a hot summers day, the lives of three young people will change forever. Young Briony weaves a tale that sets of a chain of events and she spends her whole life atoning for what she has done.
Nisha	Minhas	The Marriage Market	Multicultural	When Jeena is threatened with being sent to India to marry, she gets best friend Aaron to marry her for a year with the intention of divorcing after one year. Chaos ensues, Aaron knows nothing about Indian culture let alone dealing with an extended family. An hilarious and clever novel.
David	Mitchell	Cloud Atlas	Fantasy	A cornucopia of tales all seemingly without end but all will be revealed, persevere with this novel and you won't be disappointed!

Maggie	O'Farrell	After you'd gone	Mystery	A tale of love and loss, a definite weepy. A young woman boards a train in London, gets off in Scotland, is hit by a car and ends up in a coma. Alice journey's into her past to try and unravel her life and her relationships.
Annie	Proulx	Brokeback mountain and other short stories	Relationships	Great observations of life and relationships await you in this wonderful collection of touching tales.
Jed	Rubinfeld	The Interpretation Of Murder	Mystery	New York at the turn of the 20th century, a murder mystery and two psychologists trying to fathom what's happened. A great read, gripping and satisfying.
Francois	Sagan	Bonjour Tristesse	Relationships	A teenager decides to throw away convention and explore her own sexual freedom. This 1950s novel scandalised France with its outrageous portrayal of a teenager but has become one of the great literary works of its time.
J D	Salinger	Catcher in the rye	Coming of age	Holden Caulfield is an outsider, expelled from a series of schools and having a nervous breakdown. A classic coming of age novel that everyone should read!
Seigried	Sassoon	Memoirs of an Infantry Officer	War	An autobiographical novel, this text explores the unswerving dedication to fighting for his country but after suffering shell shock, the character organises a public protest about the unnecessary slaughter of innocent lives.
Bernhard	Schlink	The Reader	Relationships	Michael Berg meets an older woman and begins a love affair with her but years later as a law student, attends a trial and Hanna is one of the accused. With a backdrop of the Holocaust, this intriguing novel will remain with you for a long time.

Ali	Smith	The Accidental	Relationships	A family's holiday is pleurably interrupted when a mysterious blonde woman comes to stay with them. Each thinks she is there for one of the other three however with her amongst them, they all come to re-examine their own life.
John	Steinbeck	The Winter Of Our Discontent	Family Life	This novel explores success in all forms and the consequences associated with or without it. A great work of the twentieth century.
Kathryn	Stockett	The Help	Relationships	Against all odds and crossing boundaries, three people in the same household become friends which helps them sort out problems in their own lives. This tale is compelling, funny and outstanding.
Wladislaw	Szpilman	The Pianist	War (autobiographical)	An astonishing portrayal of surviving as a Jew in Warsaw, Poland during the second world war.
Patrick	Suskind	Perfume	Crime	An expert perfumier must capture the essence of a virgin if he is to be truly successful and to do that, he must kill, and kill, and kill!
Meera	Syal	Anita and me	Multicultural	Britain in the 1970s, a young Punjabi girl and a blonde sassy girl all combine to make this a compelling mix of cultural diversity and teenage life in the glam-rock era.
Amy	Tan	The Bonesetter's Daughter	Multicultural	A mother and daughter come together to discover a rich cultural history of a Chinese family coping with the changes brought about in the twentieth century.
Donna	Tartt	The Secret History	Thriller	A group of over-privileged students get involved in crazy deeds but when their college professor gets unwittingly dragged into their games, things take a sinister turn. A brilliant thriller!

Keith	Waterhouse	Billy Liar	Humour	A brilliant Yorkshire tale. Trapped in his dead end job and boring life in a small town, Billy tells lies and invents a fictional place to which he plans his escape some day. His three girlfriends aren't impressed with him!
Alice	Walker	The Color Purple	Domestic Abuse	Set in the deep south of America, this is a tale of violence and abuse from which Celie finds it difficult to escape, until she meets Shug Avery, a woman who has taken charge of her own destiny. Things are looking up for Celie!
John	Wyndham	The Chrysalids	Science Fiction	Mutants, over large horses and a secret that threatens a cosy family life. Wyndham is an expert sci-fi story teller.