

The Honours Programme

Reading List 2023-2024

Sixth Form

English Literature

Must Reads:

Shakespeare: Hamlet (Year 12)

Wilde: An Ideal Husband (Year 12)

Austen: Sense and Sensibility (Year 12/13)

Hardy: Tess of the D'Urbervilles (Year 12/13)

Adiche: Half of a Yellow Sun (Year 12)

Journey's End and a selection of Wilfred Owen Poetry (Year 12)

Should Reads:

Shakespeare: Othello

Wilde:

A Woman of No Importance

The Importance of Being Earnest

Ellman: Oscar Wilde

Thomas: Christina Rossetti, A Biography

Austen:

Pride and Prejudice

Worsley: Jane Austen at Home

Charlotte Bronte: Jane Eyre George Elliot: The Mill on the Floss

Sylvia Plath: The Bell Jar

Toni Morrison: The Bluest Eye Jeanette

Winterson: Oranges Are Not The Only Fruit

Adiche:

Purple Hibiscus

The Thing Around Your Neck

We Should All Be Feminists

Could Reads:

Shakespeare:

Macbeth

Romeo and Juliet

King Lear

Wilde:

The Picture of Dorian Grey

Austen:

Mansfield Park

Northanger Abbey

D. H. Lawrence: Women in Love

Zora Neale Hurston: Their Eyes Were Watching God

Zadie Smith: White Teeth

Remarque: All Quiet on the Western Front

S Hill: Strange Meeting

S Barry: A Long, Long Way

S Faulkes: Birdsong

P Barker: Regeneration

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| Maths | <p>How to Think like a Mathematician Kevin Houston (CUP, 2009)</p> <p>Solving Mathematical Problems Terence Tao (OUP, 2006)</p> <p>Calculus for the Ambitious T.W. Körner (CUP, 2014)</p> <p>The Ultimate Mathematical Challenge by The UK Mathematics Trust (Nov. 2018)</p> |
| Physics | <p>Absolutely anything by Richard Feynman, such as: ‘Surely You’re Joking’, ‘Mr Feynman’, ‘Six Not-So- Easy Pieces’, ‘Don’t You Have Time to Think?’, ‘What Do You Care What Other People Think?’, ‘The Pleasure of Finding Things Out’, ‘QED: The Strange Theory of Light and Matter’</p> <p>Anything by John Gribbin, such as: ‘In Search of Schrodinger’s Cat’, ‘Schrodinger’s Kittens’, ‘In Search of the Big Bang’, ‘In Search of the Edge of Time’, ‘In Search of the Double Helix’, ‘Science: A History, Deep Simplicity, The Search for Superstrings, Symmetry and the Theory of Everything’</p> <p>‘A Short History of Nearly Everything’ Bill Bryson</p> <p>‘What is this Thing Called Science?’ Chalmers</p> <p>‘Relativity’ Einstein</p> <p>‘Big Bang’ Simon Singh</p> |
| Chemistry | <p>Caesar’s Last Breath: The Epic Story of The Air Around Us – Sam Kean</p> <p>Stuff Matters: The Strange Stories of the Marvellous Materials that Shape Our Man-made World – Mark Miodownik</p> <p>Reactions: The private life of atoms – Peter Atkins</p> <p>The Story of a Wonder Drug Aspirin – Diarmuid Jeffreys</p> <p>Advice To A Young Scientist - P B Medawar</p> <p>Periodic Tales: The Curious Lives of the Elements – Hugh Aldersey-Williams</p> <p>Chemistry at Home – John Emsley</p> <p>Elegant Solutions: Ten Beautiful Experiments in Chemistry – Philip Ball</p> <p>Napoleon’s Buttons: How 17 Molecules Changed History – Penny LeCouteur and Jay Burreson</p> <p>Mauve: How one man invented a colour that changed the world – Simon Garfield</p> |
| Biology | <p>‘AQA Biology Synoptic Essays - for the new exam starting 2016’ by Dr. Al Waters</p> <p>‘Maths Skills for A Level Biology’ by James Penny</p> <p>‘DNA: The Secret of Life’ by James Watson</p> <p>‘The Double Helix: Personal Account of the Discovery of the Structure of DNA’</p> <p>‘A Short History of Nearly Everything’ by Bill Bryson</p> |
| Applied Science | <p>‘A Short History of Nearly Everything’ by Bill Bryson</p> <p><i>What is this Thing Called Science?</i>, Chalmers</p> <p>Reactions: The private life of atoms – Peter Atkins</p> <p>Advice To A Young Scientist - P B Medawar</p> |
| Philosophy and Ethics | <p>‘An Introduction to Philosophy and Ethics’ Mel Thompson</p> <p>‘Puzzle of Ethics’ Peter Vardy</p> <p>‘Puzzle of God’ Peter Vardy</p> <p>‘Puzzle of Christianity’ by Peter Vardy</p> <p>‘Teach yourself Ethics’ Mel Thompson</p> <p>‘Philosophy: A Complete Introduction: Teach Yourself’ Sharon Kaye</p> <p>‘Teach yourself Christianity’ John Young</p> <p>YouCat and the Bible (to support Christianity component)</p> <p>‘Short introduction to Philosophy’ Edward Craig</p> <p>‘Short introduction to Ethics’ Simon Blackburn</p> <p>‘Short introduction to Theology’ David Ford</p> <p>‘The Bible Book: Big Ideas Simply Explained’ by DK</p> <p>‘The God Delusion’ by Richard Dawkins</p> <p>‘Death and Eternal Life’ by John Hick</p> |

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| History | <p>"The Color Purple" Alice Walker (African American Civil Rights)</p> <p>"On the Road" Jack Kerouac (A level) (US Counter culture)</p> <p>"A Better Day Coming" non fiction (Civil Rights)</p> <p>"Stormbird" Conn Iggulden (Wars of the Roses)</p> <p>Dan Jones 'The Plantagenets'</p> <p>Dan Jones 'War of the Roses'</p> |
| Music | <p>'The Psychology of Music: A Very Short Introduction' by Elizabeth Gates</p> <p>'How Music Works: A listener's guide to harmony, keys, broken chords, perfect pitch and the secrets of a good tune' Aug. 2010 by John Powell</p> <p>'This is your Brain on Music' by Daniel J Levitin</p> |
| Law | <p>'Glanville Williams: Learning the Law' A.T.H. Smith (2016)</p> <p>'The Law Society Gazette [Online] https://www.lawgazette.co.uk/</p> <p>'Legislation [Online] http://www.legislation.gov.uk/</p> |
| Business Studies | <p>"Business Studies" by Dave Hall, Carlo Raffo, and Alain Anderton</p> <p>"Business Essentials" by Ronald J. Ebert and Ricky W. Griffin</p> <p>"The Lean Startup" by Eric Ries</p> <p>"Freakonomics" by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner</p> <p>"How Google Works" by Eric Schmidt and Jonathan Rosenberg</p> <p>"Outliers" by Malcolm Gladwell</p> <p>Financial Times (FT.com) - (Stay up to date with the latest events in the business world)</p> <p>Business-related Biographies and Autobiographies (e.g., Steve Jobs, Elon Musk, Richard Branson)</p> |
| Health and Social Care | <p>'Faces in the Water' by Janet Frame</p> <p>'The roar behind the Silence' by Sheena Byron</p> <p>'The Baby Thief' by Barbara Bisantz Raymond</p> <p>'The language of kindness' by Cristie Watson</p> <p>'The heart's Invisible Furies' by John Boyne</p> <p>'A Child Called It' by Dave Pelzer</p> <p>'Pushed Hard a midwife's tale' by Leah Hazard</p> <p>'Handle with care' by Rachel Hearson</p> <p>'Shuggie Bain' by Douglas Stuart</p> |
| PE Performing Arts | <p>Cambridge Technicals Level 3 Sport and Physical Activity (OCR, Hodder Education).</p> <p>Clegg, C. Exercise Physiology And Functional Anatomy (1995) Feltham Press</p> <p>Walder, P. Mechanics And Sport Performance (1998) Feltham Press (1998)</p> <p>An Actor prepares Constantin Stanislavski</p> <p>Technical theatre for Nontechnical people - Drew Campbell</p> <p>The Dancers study guide – Anthony King</p> <p>The Oxford Handbook of Dance and Theatre</p> |
| Sociology | <p>"Educated" by Tara Westover</p> <p>'The Spirit Level' - Wilkinson and Pickett</p> <p>'Living Dolls' - Natasha Walter</p> <p>"Social Class in the 21st Century" by Mike Savage</p> <p>"How the world works" by Noam Chomsky</p> <p>'Teach Yourself Postmodernism' - Glenn Ward</p> <p>"Poverty Safari" by Darren McGarvey</p> <p>"When I lived in modern times" by Linda Grant</p> <p>"Animal Farm" by George Orwell</p> <p>"Small Island" by Andrea Levey</p> <p>"The Heart's invisible furies" by John Boyne</p> |

Psychology

'Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience' (Mark Johnson: Blackwell, 2005)
"Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance" by Angela Duckworth
'Phil Johnson-Laird's Mental Models' (1983, Cambridge University Press)
"The Lucifer effect" by Phillip Zimbardo
"Blame by brain" by Nicole Morgan
"The Social Animal" Elliott by Aronson
'Working Memory, Thought and Action' Alan Baddeley
'Attachment' by John Bowlby
'Children's Minds' by Margaret Donaldson
"The Weirdest people in the world" by Joseph Henrich
'How the Mind Works' by Stephen Pinker
'Genes and Behaviour' by Michael Rutter
'The Selfish Gene' by Richard Dawkins
"Personality" by Daniel Nettle

Geography

'Powerdown: Options and Actions for a Post-Carbon World' (2004) by Richard Heinberg
'The Grapes of Wrath' (1939) by John Steinbeck
'The Great Thirst – Californians and Water' (1992) by Norris Hundley
'Six Degrees: Our Future on a Hotter Planet' (2008) by Mark Lynas
'The Global Casino' (4th edition 2008) by Nick Middleton
'Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy' (1974) and 'Smiley's People' (1979) by John Le Carre – also watch the BBC's film series of these books, available on DVD
'The New Rulers of the World' (2003) by John Pilger
'The White Tiger' by Aravind Adiga (The Man Booker prize winner in 2008).
'The Debt Boomerang' (1991) by Susan George
'Fixing Climate' (2008) by Wallace Broecker and Robert Kunzig
'There is No Such Thing as a Natural Disaster' (2006) by Chester Hartman and Gregory D Squires (about the New Orleans flood)
'Richter 10- Taming the Earthquakes' (1996) by Arthur Clarke and (late) Mike McQuay
'Volcano – Nature's Inferno' (1997) National Geographic
'Climate Wars: The Fight For Survival As The World Overheats' by Gwynne Dyer
'Here on Earth' by Tim Flannery

Creative Digital Media

OCR – Cambridge Technical Level 3 Digital Media
"Digital Media: Concepts and Applications" by Susan Lake, Sarah Cole, and Kaye Bagshaw
"Digital Media Ethics" by Charles Ess
"Digital Media Design for Dummies" by Janine Warner and David LaFontaine
"The Principles of Multimedia Journalism: Packaging Digital News" by Richard Koci Hernandez and Jeremy Rue
"Understanding Digital Marketing: Marketing Strategies for Engaging the Digital Generation" by Damian Ryan
"The New Rules of Marketing and PR: How to Use Social Media, Online Video, Mobile Applications, Blogs, News Releases, and Viral Marketing to Reach Buyers Directly" by David Meerman Scott
"The Visual Story: Creating the Visual Structure of Film, TV, and Digital Media" by Bruce Block
"Digital Media Production" by Lynne Schafer Gross