

Year 11 Academic Book List 2023/24

CORE	
Subject	Book
English	Small Things Like These by Claire Keegan
It is 1985, in an Irish town. During the weeks leading up to Christmas, Bill Furlong, a coal, and timber merchant, faces into his busiest season. As he does the rounds, he feels the past rising to meet him – and encounters the complicit silences of a people controlled by the Church. The long-awaited new work from the author of Foster, Small Things Like These is an unforgettable story of hope, quiet heroism, and tenderness.	
Science	Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus
Chemist Elizabeth Zott is not your average woman. In fact, Elizabeth Zott would be the first to point out that there is no such thing. But it's the early 1960s and her all-male team at Hastings Research Institute take a very unscientific view of equality. Except for one: Calvin Evans; the lonely, brilliant, Nobel-prize nominated grudge-holder who falls in love with - of all things - her mind. True chemistry results. But like science, life is unpredictable. Which is why a few years later, Elizabeth Zott finds herself not only a single mother, but the reluctant star of America's most beloved cooking show Supper at Six. Elizabeth's unusual approach to cooking ('combine one tablespoon acetic acid with a pinch of sodium chloride') proves revolutionary. But as her following grows, not everyone is happy. Because as it turns out, Elizabeth Zott isn't just teaching women to cook. She's daring them to change the status quo. Meet the unconventional, uncompromising Elizabeth Zott.	
Maths	The Joy of X: A Guided Tour of Mathematics, from One to Infinity by Steven Strogatz
Maths is everywhere, often where we do not even realise. Award-winning professor Steven Strogatz acts as our guide as he takes us on a tour of numbers that - unbeknownst to the uninitiated - connect pop culture, literature, art, philosophy, current affairs, business, and even everyday life. We chose this book as its more of an academic read which will prepare you for engaging in academic texts for further education. In addition, this book allows you to understand the importance of Maths and where it can be surprisingly found.	
OPTIONS	
Art & Design	Playing to the Gallery: Helping Contemporary Art in its Struggle to Be Understood by Grayson Perry
With this book, Grayson Perry wants to show that anyone, regardless of their background, can appreciate art. This funny, personal journey through the art world answers the basic questions that might occur to us in an art gallery but that we are too embarrassed to ask. Questions such as: What is "good" or "bad" art—and does it even matter? Is art still capable of shocking us or have we seen it all before?	
Business	The Upstarts: How Uber, Airbnb, and the Killer Companies of the New Silicon Valley Are Changing the World by Brad Stone
The Upstarts is the definitive story of two new titans of business and a dawning age of tenacity, conflict, and wealth. In Brad Stone's riveting account of the most radical companies of the new Silicon Valley, we discover how it all happened and what it took to change the world.	
Computing	Ready Player One by Ernest Cline
Ernest Cline's science fiction novel looks at a world where living in a virtual reality game, the OASIS, is better than real life. The protagonist, Wade Watts, is a teenager with no parents, prospects, or future. The thrilling story focuses on the battle for the late James Halliday's Easter egg, which is hidden within the OASIS and can only be found by solving several clues. Ready Player One gives us a tantalizing glimpse of what our VR future may look like!	
Drama	A Taste of Honey - A play by Shelagh Delaney (Script)
Teenage Jo lives with her single mother Helen, a woman who is hardened by life, an alcoholic and 'a good time girl'. A Taste of Honey comments on, and puts into question, class, race, gender, and sexual orientation in mid-twentieth-century Britain. This play can be used within component 2 for your performance at GCSE.	
French	Chocolat by Joanne Harris
A witch, who goes by the name of Vianne Rocher, arrives in the fictional village of Lansquenot-sous-Tannes to open a chocolate boutique with her six-year-old daughter. The store is a treasure of chocolatey delights that successfully lures the conservative villagers in during Lent, much to the dismay of Father Reynaud. This is a perfect read for those studying French, as the country and culture lies right at the heart of this novel - with vivid scenery, colours, smells - even the taste of the chocolates that Vianne makes!	
Geography	Prisoners of Geography by Tim Marshall
A must read for GCSE Geographers as they explore the central themes of geopolitics, inequality, development, and globalisation.	
History	Small Island by Andrea Levy
Small Island is a courageous novel of tender emotion and sparkling wit, of crossings taken and passages lost, of shattering compassion and of reckless optimism in the face of insurmountable barriers--in short, an encapsulation of the immigrant's life. The book follows a selection of characters who we cannot help but feel connected to and whose stories intertwine and demonstrate the authentic and gritty life for immigrants in Britain following WW2. Through this book you will learn about the British empire and the role Migration played in that story.	
Music	You Should See Me in a Crown by Leah Johnson
Liz Lighty has always believed she's too black, too poor, too awkward to shine in her small, rich, prom-obsessed midwestern town. But it's okay -- Liz has a plan that will get her out of Campbell, Indiana, forever: attend the uber-elite Pennington College, play in their world-famous orchestra, and become a doctor. But when the financial aid she was counting on unexpectedly falls through, Liz's plans come crashing down . . . until she's reminded of her school's scholarship for prom king and queen. There's nothing Liz wants to do less than endure a gauntlet of social media trolls, catty competitors, and humiliating public events, but despite her devastating fear of the spotlight she's willing to do whatever it takes to get to Pennington. The only thing that makes it halfway bearable is the new girl in school, Mack. She's smart, funny, and just as much of an outsider as Liz. But Mack is also running for queen. Will falling for the competition keep Liz from her dreams . . . or make them come true?	
Media	Hack Attack: How the truth caught up with Rupert Murdoch (2015) by Nick Davies
At first, it seemed like a small story. The royal correspondent of the News of the World was caught listening in on Buckingham Palace voicemails. He was quietly sent to prison and the case was closed. But Nick Davies felt sure there was a lot more going on. And he was right. This book has been chosen as it shows how a journalist exposed the phone hacking scandal. This book includes how fake news, distortion and political propaganda can be used to manipulate our world views.	
P.E	A New Formation: how black footballers shaped the modern game edited by Callum Jacobs?
An original exploration of the ways in which leading Black British footballers have shaped the modern game. Tackling the big questions of representation and identity while acknowledging the influence a collective black identity has had on a very British sport. Through a series of essays by a collection of culture writers, including Musa Okwonga, Aniefiok Ekpoudom and Jeanette Kwakye, A New Formation will examine and celebrate the variance found in Blackness. From Ian Wright's impact on contemporary Black culture to Anita Asante's compelling journey, by way of Andy Cole's experience as a child of Windrush generation parents. A New Formation places footballers into contexts larger than themselves, and each moving essay found in this anthology reveals the rich cultural tapestry of Black life in Britain, and the essential role that Black footballers - past and present - have played in constructing it.	
Beliefs and Values	Good Omens by Neil Gaiman and Terry Pratchett
This fantasy series sees fussy angel Aziraphale and loose-living demon Crowley team up to form an unlikely duo. The two have become overly fond of life on Earth, and they are forced into forming an alliance to stop the approaching Armageddon.	
Health and Social Care	This is Going to Hurt by Adam Kay
This is Going to Hurt is mostly composed of diary entries Adam Kay wrote during his medical training under the National Health Service. It was recommended to Kay to write this diary as a "reflective practice" in which he could log any interesting clinical experiences he experienced throughout his training.	
Design and Technology	The Genius Behind Apple's Greatest Products by Jony Ive
With the death of Steve Jobs in 2011, JONY IVE has become the most important person at Apple. Some would argue he always was. Steve Jobs discovered I've in 1997, when he found the scruffy British designer toiling away in a studio surrounded by hundreds of sketches and prototypes. Jobs instantly realised he had found a talent who could reverse Apple's decline and become his 'spiritual partner'.	
Engineering	The Martian by Andy Weir
The Martian tells the story of Mark Watney, an astronaut on the Ares 3 mission to Mars. After a terrible storm almost destroys the ship and the base, the crew of his ship believe he is dead. 1) _____. Alone on the red planet, he must survive until the next mission to Mars arrives.	
Hospitality and Catering	Scoff by Pen Vogler
In this fascinating social history of food in Britain, Pen Vogler examines the origins of our eating habits and reveals how they are loaded with centuries of class prejudice. Covering such topics as fish and chips, roast beef, avocados, tripe, fish knives and the surprising origins of breakfast, Scoff reveals how in Britain we have become experts at using eating habits to make judgements about social background.	