

## CHHS Academic Reading List: KS5

*The books on this list have been recommended by departments to complement the curriculum offer in each subject. They're a mixture of fiction and non-fiction, and even the odd lecture. All of these texts are designed to inspire and enthuse, and support you in broadening your reading horizons.*

Humanities	
Subject	Book
English Language	<b>A Little History of the World - EH Gombrich</b>
Gombrich tells the story of human progress from the Stone Age to the atomic bomb with a generous and humane sensibility. He paints a colourful picture of war and conquest, of grand works of art and of the advances and limitations of science. Read of remarkable people and events in a well-crafted overview of mankind's experience across the centuries. A key text for all scholars of the humanities.	
English Literature	<b>Book: My autobiography – John Agard</b>
The history of English Literature, told through the voice of a book. Narratively innovative, Book's musings on the evolution of the alphabet, libraries, book burnings and blurbs are both delightful and thought-provoking.	
Geography	<b>Disaster by Choice - Ilan Kelman</b>
Subtitled 'How our actions turn natural hazards into catastrophes', this key text unravels the human choices and decisions which shape disasters, whether they are political processes dictating where and what we build or social circumstances which create and perpetuate poverty and discrimination.	
History	<b>John Reed - Ten Days That Shook the World</b>
Ten Days That Shook the World is a book by the American journalist and socialist John Reed. Here, Reed presented a first-hand account of the 1917 Russian October Revolution. Reed followed many of the most prominent Bolsheviks closely during his time in Russia.	
RS and PSHE	<b>Americanah - Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie</b>
"How easy it was to lie to strangers, to create with strangers the versions of our lives we imagined'. We should all read Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie and Americanah might be her finest work to date. Hugely resonant, despite its epic scope, this book is fearless, gripping and spans three continents and numerous lives. For a non-fiction partner to this book, we recommend ' <i>Taking Up Space</i> ' by Chelsea Kwakye and Ore Ogunbiyi	
French	<b>Celle qui n'était plus (ou Les Diaboliques) - Boileau-Narcejac (French language)</b>
	<b>Giovanni's Room – James Baldwin (English)</b>
Bolleau takes the reader on a confused journey with a murderer asking not so much 'Who dunnit' but more of a 'How did this ever happen at all'...'Mais de quel cote est le vivant, de quel cote est le mort?'. To accompany this book we recommend James' Baldwin's book about a white American expat, living, as Baldwin did, in France who must come to terms with his homosexuality which was a complex matter in 1950s Paris.	
Spanish	<b>El coronel no tiene quien le escriba - Gabriel García Márquez</b>
García Márquez lo consideró su mejor libro: "Yo creo que es mi mejor libro, sin lugar a dudas. Además, y esto no es una <i>boutade</i> , tuve que escribir <i>Cien años de soledad</i> para que leyeran <i>El coronel no tiene quien le escribe</i> ."	
German	<b>Andorra - Max Frisch</b>
The play was written fifteen years after the end of WW2 but is more of a study of cultural prejudice than a specific reflection on the war. Many of the characters have something to gain from Andri's social position and the motif of whitewashing points to hypocrisy as a central theme. Scholars of the German language are also implored to read Brecht – to hear the language in its full power: <i>Mutter Courage und ihre Kinder - Bertolt Brecht</i>	
STEM	
Subject	Book
Maths	<b>Chaos - James Gleick</b>
The science of Chaos cuts across traditional scientific disciplines as this book itself transcends mathematics, tying together unrelated kinds of wildness and irregularity, from the turbulence of the weather to the complication rhythms of the human heart. An excellent introduction to the growth and patterns of Chaos.	
Biology	<b>The Selfish Gene - Richard Dawkins</b>
A classic exposition of evolutionary thought, The Selfish Gene has sold over a million copies and been translated into over 25 languages. Dawkins articulates a gene's eye view of evolution, giving centre stage to those persistent units of information and in which organisms can be seen as vehicles for their replication. 40 years old and still generating debates today - read it and contribute your thoughts to the conversation.	
Chemistry	<b>The Chemistry of Life - Steven Rose</b>
	<b>Periodic Tales: The Curious Lives of the Elements - Hugh Aldersey-Williams</b>

Continually in print since 1966, this book is a clear and authoritative introduction to the world of biochemistry. Make sure you read the fourth edition which has been revised and updated to include the latest developments in DNA and protein synthesis, cell regulation and the social and medical implications of both.	
<b>Physics</b>	<b>Just Six Numbers - Martin Rees.</b>
	<b>The Planet Factory: Exoplanets and the Search for a Second Earth – Elizabeth Tasker</b>
Devoting a chapter to each of the 6 numbers which, imprinted in the Big Bang, determine the essence of our world; this book describes the universe's fundamental laws and explores the deep connections that exist between stars and atoms.	
<b>Computing</b>	<b>Coders at Work: Reflections on the Craft of Programming - Peter Seibel</b>
	<b>Can Machines Be Conscious, and Would It Matter If They Were?</b> <a href="https://www.gresham.ac.uk/lectures-and-events/will-ai-be-conscious">https://www.gresham.ac.uk/lectures-and-events/will-ai-be-conscious</a>
A fascinating look at how some of the best programmers in the world do their work.	
<b>Technology</b>	<b>Process 50 designs from concept to manufacture- Jennifer Hudson.</b>
An in-depth study of the creative and manufacturing processes behind 50 common household objects. Each product is selected for its significant use of new technology, unorthodox or complex production process or its use of either innovative materials or traditional materials adapted in new and unexpected ways. You will look at the objects around you with fresh eyes once you have read this book.	
<b>Arts</b>	
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Book</b>
<b>Art and Photography</b>	<b>Ways of Seeing - John Berger</b>
“Seeing comes before words. The child looks and recognises before it can speak.” Based on a BBC TV series from the 1970s, this has become one of the most stimulating and influential books on art in any language. This is an eye-opening book and an essential text for any person interested in Art.	
<b>Drama</b>	<b>Pronoun - Evan Placey</b>
Josh and Isabella are childhood sweethearts. They were meant to spend their gap year together; they were meant to be together forever. But Isabella has now become a boy. A love story about transition, testosterone and James Dean.	
<b>Music</b>	<b>Music: A very short introduction – Nicholas Cook</b>
There are numerous music related titles in the ‘Very Short Introduction’ series which, despite their small size, are packed full of high-quality writing by experts in their field. This over-arching title considers the history of music and thinking about music, focussing on its social and cultural dimensions and introduces the key concepts needed for the further study of Music.	
<b>PE</b>	<b>Chimp Paradox - Steve Peters</b>
Do you sabotage your own happiness and success? Are you struggling to make sense of yourself? Do your emotions sometimes dictate your life? The Chimp Paradox is an incredibly powerful mind management tool that can help you become a happy, confident, healthier and more successful person. It explains the struggle that takes place within your mind and then shows how to apply this understanding to every area of your life. If you enjoy books exploring self-improvement, we also highly recommend <i>Bounce by Matthew Syed</i> .	
<b>Social Sciences</b>	
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Subject</b>
<b>Economics</b>	<b>Can't We Just Print More Money?- Rupal Patel and Jack Meaning</b>
A rip-roaring crash-course on economics. From financial crises to Freddo prices, it will help you make sense of your job, your life and maybe your world.	
<b>Law</b>	<b>The Secret Barrister: Stories of the Law and How It's Broken- The Secret Barrister</b>
Stories from my daily life as a barrister to show you how the system is broken, who broke it and why we should start caring before it's too late.	
<b>Psychology</b>	<b>The Lucifer Effect: How Good People Turn Evil - Philip Zimbardo</b>
The book includes over 30 years of research into the psychological and social factors which result in immoral acts being committed by otherwise moral people.	
<b>Media</b>	<b>The Circle – Dave Eggers</b>
Cruel dystopia exploring the world of powerful tech. Mae Holland, a recent college graduate, lands a job at The Circle, a powerful technology company run by the "Three Wise Men." Mae owes her job largely to her best friend and college roommate, Annie, one of the forty most influential people in the company. Fascinatingly dark.	

