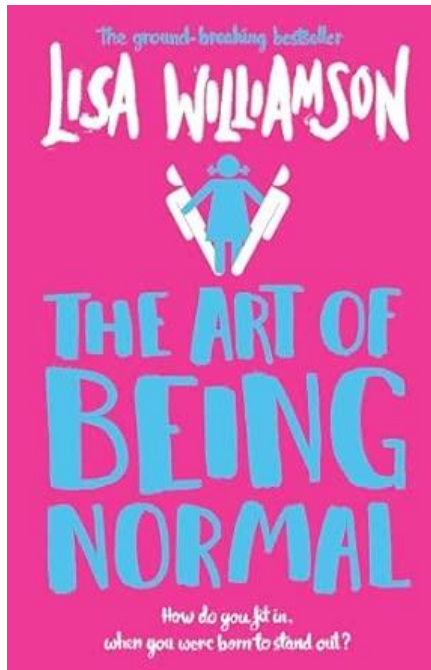


YEAR 9 WIDER READING

Core Text

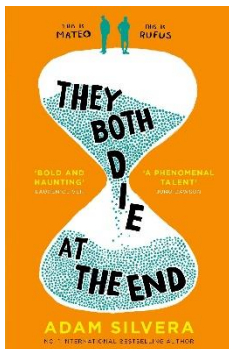
The Art of Being Normal



***The Art of Being Normal* by Lisa Williamson is a YA novel following two transgender teenagers, David Piper and Leo Denton, who navigate friendship, school, and identity at Eden Park School. David, assigned male but transitioning, finds support in new student Leo, who is hiding his own secret past.**

Key Themes: Identity, Adversity, Gender, LGBTQ+

Recommended Wider Reading



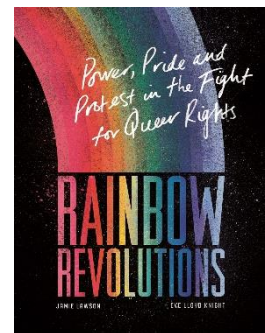
They Both Die at the End – Adam Silvera

On the day they are told they will die, Mateo and Rufus meet through an app designed to connect people in their final hours. As they spend the day together, they form a powerful bond. The novel explores mortality, connection and what it means to truly live.



Felix Ever After – Kacen Callender

Felix is a transgender teen struggling with identity, self-worth and love. After being targeted online, he begins a journey of self-discovery that challenges how he sees himself. The novel explores identity, relationships and the idea that it's okay to still be figuring out who you are.



Rainbow Revolutions – Jamie Lawson

Rainbow Revolutions: Power, Pride, and Protest in the Fight for Queer Rights that explores the history of LGBTQ+ activism from the 1969 Stonewall Riots to modern Pride. It documents key figures, the AIDS crisis, and the fight for equality,

YEAR 9 WIDER READING

Core Text

Macbeth

OXFORD SCHOOL SHAKESPEARE

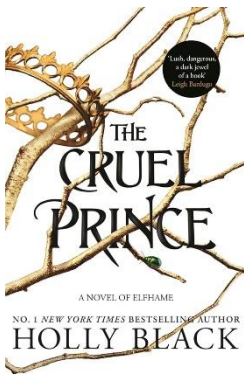


MACBETH

Macbeth is a Shakespearean tragedy about a Scottish noble, Macbeth, who, spurred by his ambitious wife and a prophecy from three witches, murders King Duncan to take the throne. Consumed by paranoia and guilt, he becomes a tyrannical ruler, committing more murders to maintain power before his inevitable downfall and death, restoring order to Scotland.

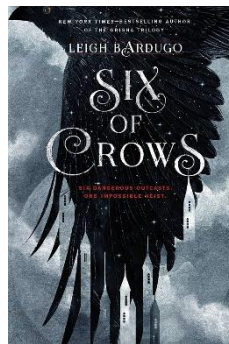
Key Themes: Tragedy, Supernatural, Madness, Shakespeare

Recommended Wider Reading



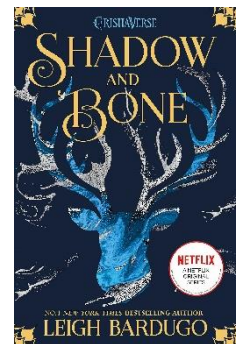
The Cruel Prince – Holly Black

Jude, a mortal girl living in the dangerous world of the fae, is determined to gain power despite being an outsider. As she navigates betrayal and political intrigue, she must decide what she is willing to sacrifice. The novel explores ambition, power and the cost of control.



Six of Crows – Leigh Bardugo

A group of skilled criminals are brought together for a dangerous heist that could make them rich—or get them killed. Each character has their own motives and secrets. The novel explores ambition, loyalty and moral complexity in a fast-paced, high-stakes world.



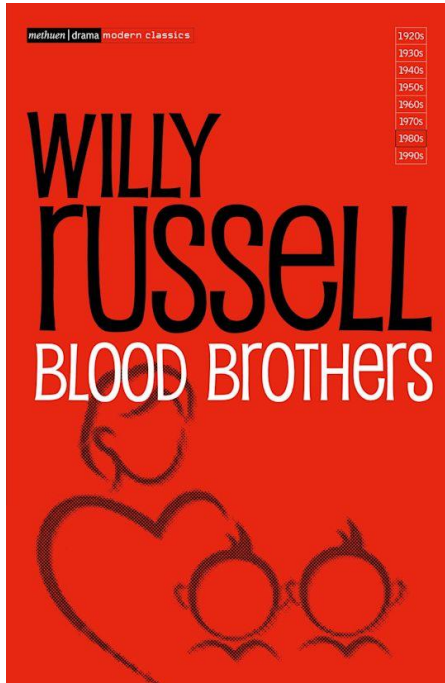
Shadow and Bone - Leigh Bardugo

Alina discovers she has a rare power that could save her war-torn country. As she is drawn into a world of magic and political manipulation, she must learn who to trust. The novel explores power, corruption and the struggle between light and darkness.

YEAR 9 WIDER READING

Core Text

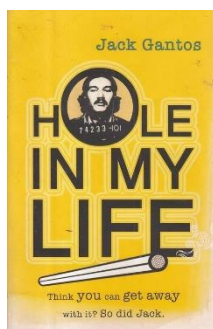
Blood Brothers



Blood Brothers by Willy Russell is a tragic musical about Mickey and Edward, twins separated at birth in Liverpool. One is raised in poverty by their mother, Mrs. Johnstone, while the other is adopted by the wealthy Mrs. Lyons. Despite different upbringing, they become best friends, but their lives diverge until a tragic confrontation.

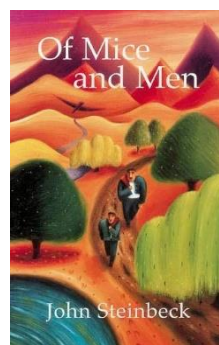
Key Themes: Social Class, Nature vs. Nurture, Superstition

Recommended Wider Reading



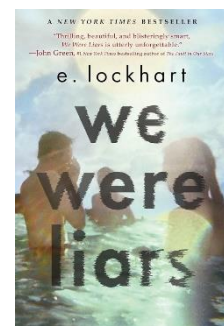
Hole in My Life – Jack Gantos

This memoir tells the true story of how poor decisions led the author into crime and imprisonment as a teenager. Through reflection, he finds a new direction. The book explores consequences, responsibility and the possibility of change.



Of Mice and Men – John Steinbeck

George and Lennie travel together during the Great Depression, dreaming of owning their own land. However, their hopes are threatened by harsh realities and Lennie's actions. The novel explores friendship, loneliness and the fragility of dreams.



We Were Liars – E. Lockhart

Cadence returns to her wealthy family's private island, trying to remember a traumatic event she cannot fully recall. As the truth unfolds, secrets and lies are revealed. The novel explores privilege, family and the consequences of denial.