

# Form Time Reading Programme

## Start your Reading Journey at Wood Green Academy

From this academic year, Wood Green students will start their Reading Journeys as part of the Form Tutor programme. For two form sessions a week, students will actively listen along as their Form Tutor reads a carefully chosen text for them.

## Year 7 students will read:

### Beowulf

In fifth-century Denmark, a murderous monster stalks the night, and only the great prince of the Geats has the strength and courage to defeat him. Beowulf's terrifying quest to destroy Grendel, the foul fiend, a hideous sea-hag and a monstrous fire-dragon is the oldest surviving epic in British literature.

### Boy in the Back of the Class

On a perfectly ordinary school day, something extraordinary happens: a boy with pale skin, lion eyes and a tattered red rucksack walks in. Unable to speak English and seated at the back of the class, Ahmet 'the refugee kid' becomes the perfect target for bullies and rumours alike. But Ahmet has also captured the attention and empathy of a fellow classmate, who will do anything to help him find his family. Even if that involves a plan - or five, and the Queen herself!

Feeling inspired to read similar books? Check out:

- *War Horse* by Michael Murpurgo
- *The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown
- *Anglo-Saxon Boy* by Tony Bradman

Or check out these books for Year 7 students here:

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/reading-lists-for-ks3-pupils/suggested-reading-list-for-year-7-pupils-ks2-age-11-12/>

## Year 8 students will read:

### Pig Heart Boy

Cameron is 13 and desperately in need of a heart transplant when a pioneering doctor approaches his family with a startling proposal. He can give Cameron a new heart - but not one from a human, one from a pig. It's never been done before. It's experimental, risky and very controversial. But Cameron is fed up with just sitting on the side of life, always watching and never doing. He has to try - to become the world's first pig-heart boy.

### Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time is a murder mystery novel like no other. The detective, and narrator, is Christopher Boone. Christopher is fifteen and has Asperger's Syndrome. He knows a very great deal about maths and very little about human beings. He loves lists, patterns and the truth. He hates the colours yellow and brown and being touched. He has never gone further than the end of the road on his own, but when he finds a neighbour's dog murdered he sets out on a terrifying journey which will turn his whole world upside down.

Feeling inspired to read similar books? Check out:

- *Noughts and Crosses* by Malorie Blackman
- *Running on the Roof of the World* by Jess Butterworth
- *Shadow Jumper* by J.M. Forster

Or check out these books for Year 8 students here:

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/reading-lists-for-ks3-pupils/suggested-reading-list-for-year-8-pupils-ks3-age-12-13/>

## Year 9 students will read:

Pigeon English\*

Eleven-year-old Harrison Opoku, the second best runner in Year 7, races through his new life in England with his personalised trainers - the Adidas stripes drawn on with marker pen - blissfully unaware of the very real threat around him. Newly arrived from Ghana with his mother and older sister Lydia, Harri absorbs the many strange elements of city life, from the bewildering array of Haribo sweets, to the frightening, fascinating gang of older boys from his school. But his life is changed forever when one of his friends is murdered. As the victim's nearly new football boots hang in tribute on railings behind fluorescent tape and a police appeal draws only silence, Harri decides to act, unwittingly endangering the fragile web his mother has spun around her family to keep them safe.

Animal Farm\*

‘All animals are equal. But some animals are more equal than others.’

Mr Jones of Manor Farm is so lazy and drunken that one day he forgets to feed his livestock. The ensuing rebellion under the leadership of the pigs Napoleon and Snowball leads to the animals taking over the farm. Vowing to eliminate the terrible inequities of the farmyard, the renamed Animal Farm is organised to benefit all who walk on four legs. But as time passes, the ideals of the rebellion are corrupted, then forgotten. And something new and unexpected emerges . . . First published in 1945, *Animal Farm* – the history of a revolution that went wrong – is George Orwell's brilliant satire on the corrupting influence of power.

Feeling inspired to read similar books? Check out:

- *1984* by George Orwell
- *Anita and Me* by Meera Syal\*
- *Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* by John Boyne

Or check out these books for Year 9 students here:

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/reading-lists-for-ks3-pupils/suggested-reading-list-for-year-9-pupils-ks3-age-13-14/>

## Year 10 students will read:

### Never Let Me Go\*

In one of the most acclaimed novels of recent years, Kazuo Ishiguro imagines the lives of a group of students growing up in a darkly skewed version of contemporary England. Narrated by Kathy, now 31, *Never Let Me Go* dramatizes her attempts to come to terms with her childhood at the seemingly idyllic Hailsham School and with the fate that has always awaited her and her closest friends in the wider world. A story of love, friendship, and memory, *Never Let Me Go* is charged throughout with a sense of the fragility of life.

### Hitchhikers' Guide to the Galaxy

One Thursday lunchtime the Earth gets unexpectedly demolished to make way for a new hyperspace bypass. For Arthur Dent, who has only just had his house demolished that morning, this seems already to be more than he can cope with. Sadly, however, the weekend has only just begun, and the Galaxy is a very strange and startling place.

Feeling inspired to read similar books? Check out:

- *War of the Worlds* by HG Wells
- *Remains of the Day* by Kazuo Ishiguro

Or check out these books for Year 10 students here:

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/reading-lists-for-ks4-school-pupils/suggested-reading-list-year-10-pupils-ks4-age-14-15/>

The reading journey doesn't end at Year 10! Keep going through Year 11 by reading:

- *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley
- *Much Ado About Nothing* by William Shakespeare
- *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson

Or check out these books for Year 11 students here:

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/reading-lists-for-ks4-school-pupils/suggested-reading-list-year-11-pupils-ks4-age-15-16/>

## The Form Tutor Reading Programme

The books for the Form Time Reading Programme have been carefully chosen to deal with relevant political and contemporary social issues. As such, students might find that they feel uncomfortable reading parts of these texts. That is okay. These texts are written to encourage such emotions and we, as a school, want to help students to navigate these feelings in a supportive and constructive way. Form Tutors will forewarn students if there is more challenging content in advance of reading.

For us to further support you, as a student or family member, please ensure that form tutors and year leaders are aware of any issues you might have. Alternatively, use the [Speak Out](#) button if you need to.

All texts have been approved by the school to form an active or a supplementary role as part of the National Curriculum and are deemed appropriate for students for this point in their education. There will be no assessment on these tests.

\* denotes that this text appears as a GCSE English Literature text on some exam boards and, as such, has been approved by Ofqual (the government body for Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation). Students **should not** use this as their English Literature exam text and instead should focus their revision and responses on the texts actively learnt as part of their study of English Literature.