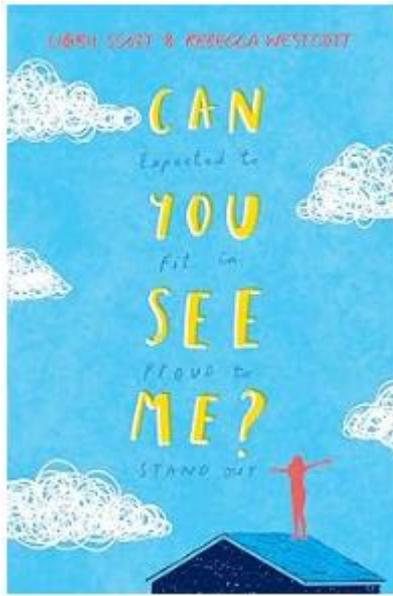


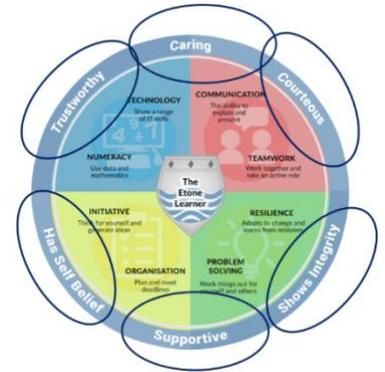
Form Time Readers Overview

Year 7

Book 1 - Can you see me? Libby Scott & Rebecca Westcott (2019)



Tally is starting secondary school and she's anxious about lots of things. Acclimatising to new surroundings and learning the ways of different teachers is tough. Plus there's the boy who calls her names, and her friends from primary school who she's always depended on before have started talking about things that just don't interest her (like boys) and cautioning her when her behaviour is embarrassing.



Tally knows she's different: she's autistic, meaning she sees and feels everything differently to her friends and family. Now, as she enters this new stage in her life, she is painfully aware of the way she is perceived and feeling an almost unbearable pressure to try to fit in. But what exactly are the rules for being "normal"?

Written in collaboration with young blogger Libby, who is herself autistic, this is a powerful and highly relatable story about fitting in and being yourself. Tally's diary entries give an authentic insight into one girl's perspective of being autistic, and smashing a host of common assumptions and stereotypes about autism as we see Tally's potent sense of humour and her deep empathy. Most powerful of all is Tally's ultimate realisation that autism is not something that needs to be hidden.

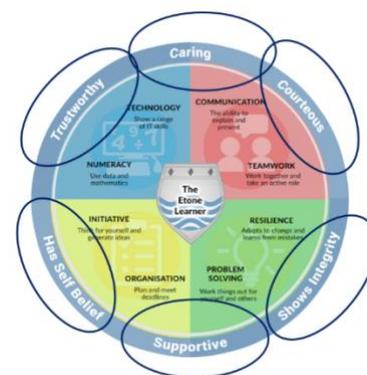
Recommendation	Literary	PSHE	Cultural Capital
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book Trust • Toby Henderson Trust • National Literacy Trust – Transition Read • School Reading List 	Rich language First person Diary entries	Diversity (neuro) Transition Inclusion Identity / self-discovery Bullying Feelings / emotions	Autism Inclusion Diary / journal



Book 2 - Asha and the Spirit Bird / Jasbinder Bilan (2019)



Asha's life on her parents' farm in the foothills of the Himalayas would be perfect – if only her father could be there with them. He works in a factory in a far-off city, sending money home, because the farm doesn't pay enough for them to live on. But then one day, the money stops. Inspired by the spirit of her grandmother in the form of a lamagaia bird, Asha decides to set off on a dangerous journey, to find her father and bring him home before money-lenders make them penniless.



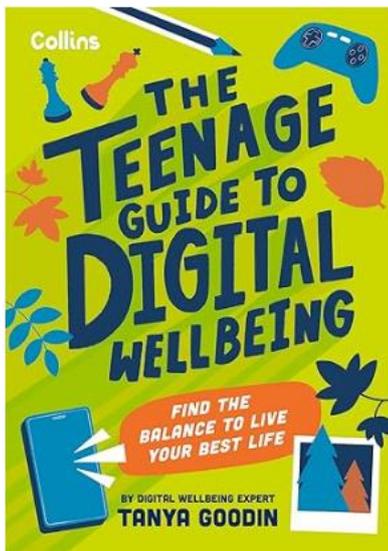
Throughout this warm, comforting story, religious faith and spiritual beliefs provide an anchor for Asha. Animals protect her, and seem to be filled with the spirits of her beloved dead. Although the story explores some dark and terrible truths about the vulnerability of the poor in India, it manages to do so with a constantly reassuring tone. Asha and her friends face slave labour and exploitation, but magical help, human kindness and faith get them through all dangers, and the final ending is as perfect as any fairy tale.

Recommendation	Literary	PSHE	Cultural Capital
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book Trust • National Literacy Trust – Transition Read • Author Radhika Sanghani • School Reading List 	Indian culture Rich tier 2 Variety of sentence structures Motifs	Diversity (Indian) Religion / spirituality Politics / Human rights Resilience Friendship / loyalty	Religion Indian culture Journey / pilgrimage



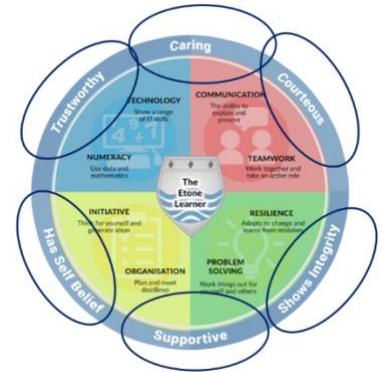
Year 8

Book 1 - The Teenage Guide to Digital Wellbeing / Tanya Goodin (2024)



The book is for teens and tweens – aged 11 to 16 – to help them build healthy online habits, stay safe online and learn how to put their devices down from time to time in order to enjoy some of the things only the offline world can offer.

It's divided into twelve chapters, each has exercises, prompts and suggestions on how to build healthy habits, as well as accessible explanations on how the digital world works and how to navigate some of its pitfalls.

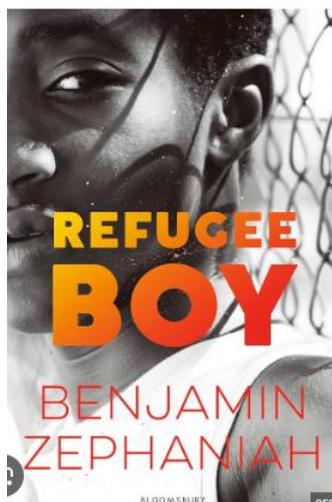


The book encourages the teens to keep a logbook (within the book), tracking their habits and setting goals and objectives for themselves. This is all about helping them to develop a mindfulness habit – scrolling mindlessly is one of the biggest time-wasters for teens and adults alike – which will help them online.

Recommendation	Literary	PSHE	Cultural Capital
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Best Books for Schools The Times 	Non-fiction Interactive workbook	Online safety Digital footprint Wellbeing Mindfulness Healthy Relationships Fakes / Deep Fakes	The online world Self-awareness Habits / goals

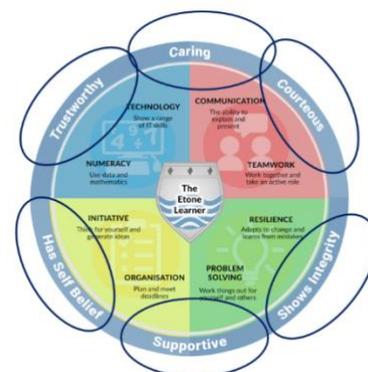


Book 2 - Refugee Boy / Benjamin Zephaniah (2001)



Alem's father is Ethiopian and his mother is Eritrean, and there is a dangerous conflict raging between the two countries.

For his own safety, Alem's father brings him to England to escape the dangers at home. At first, Alem is delighted to be having a holiday with his dad, until he wakes up one morning to find his father has left him in England alone.



Although Alem is heartbroken and everything about English culture is very confusing, he tries to see the positives of living in a cold, alien environment far from his home and family.

Alem's moving story helps the reader understand the difficulties refugees face coming to England from a child's perspective, but also points out the huge advantages we all take for granted – free education, no war, a support system that tries to help and a legal system that tries to bring justice and security to refugees. It also shows how the British press constantly stirs up hatred against refugees and minorities, and how difficult that is for Alem.

Awards

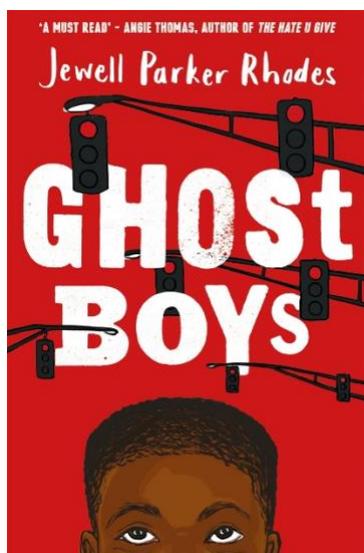
2002 Portsmouth Book Award - Longer Novel category

Recommendation	Literary	PSHE	Cultural Capital
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Book Trust 	Rich language Literary devices Range of characters Strong themes (home and family / identity (including code switching) / hope / violence / prejudice)	Diversity Foster care Immigration Asylum Family War	Refugees War Immigration Asylum Foster Care



Year 9

Book 1 - Ghost Boys / Jewell Parker Rhodes (2018)



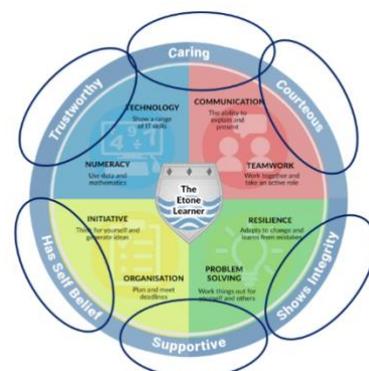
In Chicago, a white police officer shoots and kills black 12-year-old Jerome, mistaking a toy gun the child is playing with for a real one. As a ghost, young Jerome witnesses the aftermath of his death, including scenes with his family, the police and the media.

Jerome goes on to meet another ghost, that of the real life figure Emmett Till: a black boy whom himself was murdered in 1955. Till shows Jerome that hundreds of other "ghost boys" just like them are left to roam the streets of America. The story also follows other characters, including Sarah, the daughter of the white officer who killed Jerome, Jerome's friend Carlos, whose toy gun Jerome was playing with, and Jerome's younger sister Kim.

Rhodes achieves a lot in this relatively short book, dealing with grief, history, the idea of biases (both conscious and unconscious) and the fight for justice. This is a beautiful and tragic book that is unfortunately very necessary right now.

Awards

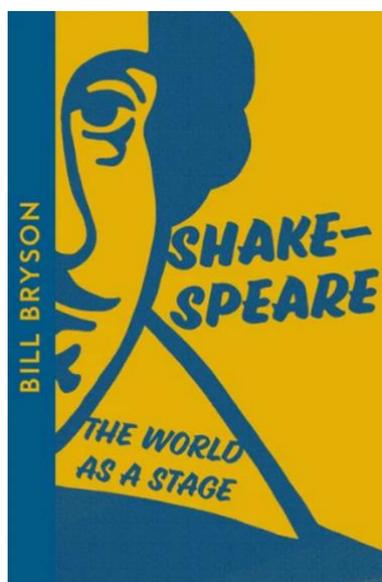
- 2019 The E. B. White Read Aloud Award (Middle Reader)
- 2019 Kids' Book Choice Awards
- 2019 Walter Dean Myers Award for Outstanding Children's Literature
- 2019 Jane Addams Children's Book Award for a Book for Older Children.
- We Need Diverse Books 2019 Walter Award (Young Readers Category)
- NAIBA (New Atlantic Independent Booksellers Association): 2018 Book of the Year



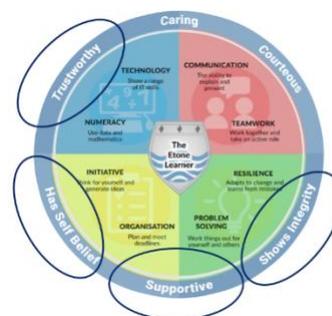
Recommendation	Literary	PSHE	Cultural Capital
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book Trust • Best Books for Schools • BBC 	Split perspectives Binary – dead V alive Rich language	Diversity (Black) Politics Bereavement Bullying Racism Justice Courtrooms Consequences	Court proceedings Historic and current Racial violence Consequences



Book 2 - Shakespeare – The World as a Stage / Bill Bryson (2007)



This is a compelling short biography of William Shakespeare, our greatest dramatist and poet, exploring myths and truths, whilst exploring the history in a lively tone.



Examining centuries of myths, half-truths and lies, Bill Bryson makes sense of the man behind the masterpieces. As he leads us through the crowded streets of Elizabethan England, he brings to life the places and characters that inspired Shakespeare's work. Along the way he delights in the inventiveness of Shakespeare's language, which has given us so many of the familiar words and phrases we use today, and celebrates the Bard's legacy to our

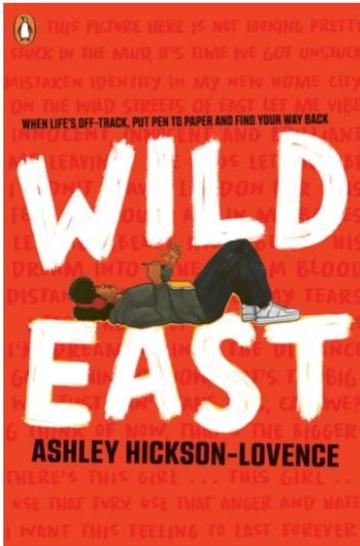
literature, culture and history.

Recommendation	Literary	PSHE	Cultural Capital
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Reading List 	Non-fiction Biography Contextual links to English Humour Shakespearean language analysed	Family Diversity (LGBTQ+)	English history Theatre Shakespeare Stratford-upon-Avon



Year 10

Book 1 - Wild East / Ashley Hickson-Lovence (2024)

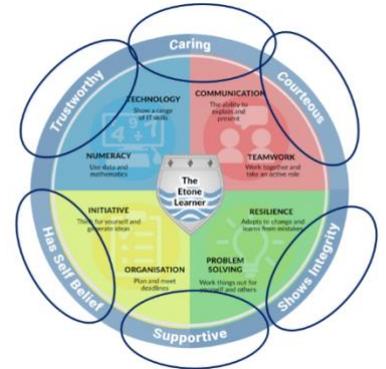


*Pen in one hand, on my wrist, a ticking clock
I've got to make this work, just need a little
luck...*

When fourteen-year-old Ronny's life is struck by tragedy, his mum decides it's finally time they move out of London.

In his new city, as a Black teenager in a mostly white school, Ronny feels like a complete outsider and struggles to balance keeping his head down with his ambition of becoming a rapper.

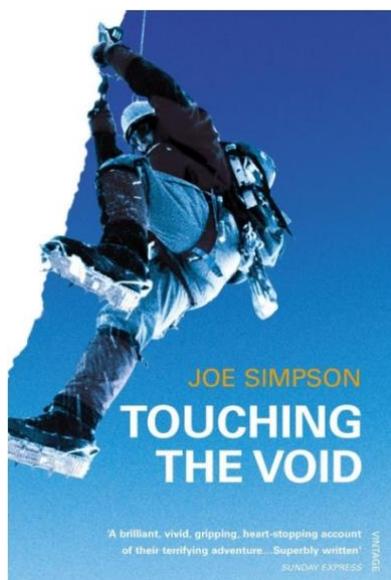
But when a local poet comes into class, Ronny discovers a world he's never considered before. Rap is like spoken word, bars equal poetry – and maybe the combination of both could be the key to achieving his dreams?



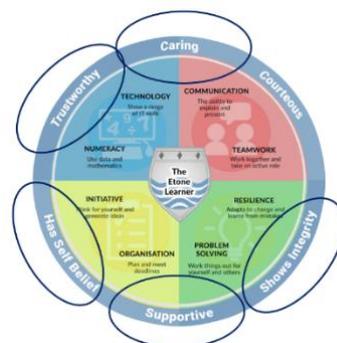
Recommendation	Literary	PSHE	Cultural Capital
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Love reading 4 kids School Reading List 	Novel in verse form Rich language Poetry Key methods for sparking creative responses	Diversity (Black / LGBTQ+) Identity Knife crime County Lines Gangs Vaping	Poetry Crime Writing School



Book 2 - Touching the Void / Joe Simpson (1988)



The book was made into a BAFTA winning film and tells of Joe's resilience, perseverance, and focus on survival, all qualities we aim to instil in Etone pupils. It is a powerful story of two climbers – Joe Simpson and Simon Yates – and their expedition to climb the daunting west face of the Siula Grande in the Peruvian Andes.



Disaster strikes the mountaineers when Joe falls and breaks his leg. In an attempt to rescue him using a complicated rope manoeuvre, Simon inadvertently lowers Joe off a cliff. In order to save himself from near-certain death, Simon is forced to cut the rope joining them together.

Awards

1989 Boardman Tasker Prize for Mountain Literature

1989 NCR Book Award

Recommendation	Literary	PSHE	Cultural Capital
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AQA 	Non-fiction First person recount Book into film Vivid description	Resilience Perseverance Injury Survival Friendship / loyalty	Climbing / Mountaineering Adventure Snow / mountains / Peruvian Andes

