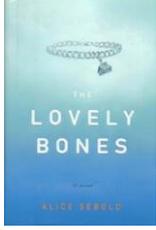
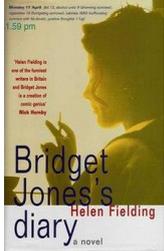
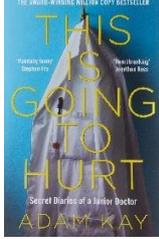
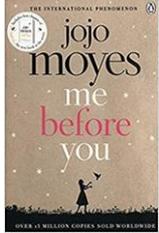
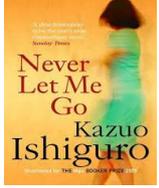
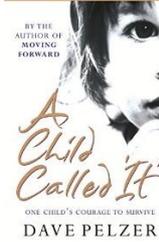
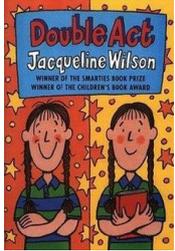
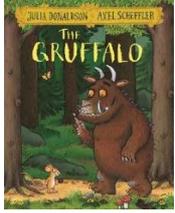
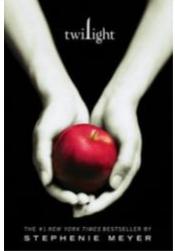


Book Cover	Book Title and Author	Blurb	Reason for choice
	<p>Lovely Bones by Alice Sebold</p>	<p><i>It is the story of a teenage girl who, after being raped and murdered, watches from her personal Heaven as her family and friends struggle to move on with their lives while she comes to terms with her own death.</i></p>	<p>I read this book as a teenager during a time of personal struggle. The book has realistic themes of love, family bonds, denial, truth and acceptance. The author highlights that coping with death and trauma is never easy, but in order to move forward in life, a person must be accepting and have the time to process things in their own way.</p>
	<p>Bridget Jones Book Series by Helen Fielding</p>	<p><i>A series of personal diaries chronicling the life of Bridget Jones as a thirtysomething single woman in London, as she tries to make sense of life, love, and relationships with the help of a surrogate "urban family" of friends.</i></p>	<p>Bridget is a character I can completely sympathise with! These books are hilarious and I find myself laughing out loud every time I re-read them. These books tap into the gap between how people feel they are expected to be on the outside and how they actually feel inside. It provides reassurance that it's ok to not have life planned out exactly how you want it and that sometimes good things come to those who wait.</p>
	<p>This is Going to Hurt: Secret Diaries of a Junior Doctor by Adam Kay</p>	<p><i>It is a collection of diary entries written by Kay during his medical training from 2004 to 2010. Kay's book discusses political issues in the health care system of the National Health Service in the United Kingdom and societal conflicts between the general population and neglected doctors. Kay accomplishes this by incorporating humour into his personal anecdotes that depict his life as he progresses through his medical training, and his eventual resignation from this career.</i></p>	<p>Really easy to read and so insightful! I had no idea the life of junior doctor was so hard and at times extremely painful. A fabulous insight into the NHS, with so many hilarious anecdotes (although some not for the faint hearted). Have tissues to hand as some parts are upsetting and I did cry a lot at the ending.</p>

	<p>Me Before You Series by Jojo Moyes</p>	<p><i>The Me Before You Trilogy follows the story of Louisa Clark through love, heartbreak, and life-changing decisions as she discovers who she really is.</i></p>	<p>It's a love story, at the heart of the story, but there are some very difficult issues. It covers the topic of euthanasia and really does pull at your heart strings! Again, make sure you have your tissues close by.</p>
	<p>Never let me go by Kazuo Ishiguro</p>	<p><i>Friends Kathy, Tommy and Ruth grow up together at a seemingly idyllic boarding school in the English countryside. When they leave the school and the horrible truth of their true purpose is revealed to them, they must simultaneously confront deep-seated feelings of love, jealousy and betrayal that threaten to tear their friendship asunder.</i></p>	<p>From the beginning of the novel, there's something unusual about the existence of the three central characters — Kathy, Ruth, and Tommy — and even though Ishiguro doesn't reveal exactly what the horrific nature of the existence is until a third way through, there are subtle clues early on to show the reader not everything is what it seems. A science fiction thriller that I loved and kept guessing throughout.</p>
	<p>A Child Called It by Dave Pelzer</p>	<p><i>Brutally beaten and starved by his emotionally unstable, alcoholic mother - Dave became a slave; he was no longer a boy, but an 'it'. His bed was an old army cot in the basement, his clothes were torn and unwashed, and when he was allowed the luxury of food it was scraps from the dog's bowl. The outside world knew nothing of the nightmare played out behind closed doors. But throughout Dave kept alive dreams of finding a family to love him.</i></p>	<p>I have read quite a lot of autobiographies; however, this was one that has stuck with me ever since. The book allows us to truly appreciate the lives that we lead. It enabled me to see that there is always hope – no matter how bad situations may be.</p>
	<p>The Faraway Tree Series by Enid Blyton</p>	<p><i>The stories take place in an enchanted wood in which a gigantic magical tree grows – the eponymous 'Faraway Tree'. The tree is so tall that its topmost branches reach into the clouds and it is wide enough to contain small houses carved into its trunk. The wood and the tree are discovered by three children</i></p>	<p>I love all books by Enid Blyton, however this was a firm childhood favourite.</p>

		<i>named Jo, Bessie and Fanny (later updated to Joe, Beth and Frannie), who move into a house nearby. It is then that they went on adventures to the top of the tree.</i>	
	Double Act by Jaqueline Wilson	<i>Ruby and Garnet are ten-year-old twins. They're identical, and they do EVERYTHING together, especially since their mother died three years earlier - but they couldn't be more different. Bossy, bouncy, funny Ruby loves to take charge, and is desperate to be a famous actress, while quiet, sensitive, academic Garnet loves nothing more than to curl up with one of her favourite books. And when everything around the twins is changing so much, can being a double act work for ever?</i>	The first book I read by Jaqueline Wilson and absolutely loved it. I remember reading this in primary school and being super proud as it had nearly 200 pages in it!
	The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson	<i>The Gruffalo is an undisputed modern classic and has become a bestselling phenomenon around the world. This award-winning rhyming story of a mouse and a monster has found its way into the hearts and bedtimes of an entire generation of children over the past twenty years, and will undoubtedly continue to enchant children for years and years to come.</i>	My son's absolute favourite story – read and acted out many times over the past two years, including singing along to the Gruffalo song!
	The Twilight Saga by Stephenie Meyer	<i>The Twilight Saga is a series of four vampire-themed fantasy romance novels. The four books chart the later teen years of Isabella "Bella" Swan, a girl who moves to Forks, Washington, and falls in love with a 104-year-old vampire named Edward Cullen.</i>	Absolutely loved reading this epic love story and the conflict it brought. A very self-indulgent read and really enjoyed the science fiction theme of vampires vs werewolves.