

## Benefits of reading for pleasure

Reading brings the pleasures  
of escapism, discovery, involvement,  
reflection and self-empowerment.

### Reading and Mental Health

Reading enhances young people's awareness of mental health, offers emotional support, eases stress and boosts self-esteem and happiness.

#### Personal Outcomes

### Reading and Empathy

Reading nurtures young people's open-mindedness, emotional intelligence and empathy.

#### Social Outcomes

### Reading and Social Engagement

Reading brings people together and can encourage young people's interest in the community.

#### Social Outcomes

### Reading and Social Mobility

Reading breaks down social barriers, helps all children do better at school and improves job prospects.

#### External Outcomes

## Further reading:

**Reading and Mental Health** – Lakey et al., 2017. Culture, sport and wellbeing: Findings from the Understanding Society youth survey

**Reading and Empathy** – Guarisco et al., 2017. Reading Books and Reading Minds: Differential Effects of Wonder and The Crossover on Empathy and Theory of Mind

**Reading and Social Engagement** – Hays, 2017. From Fiction to Fact to Potential Action: Generating Prosocial Attitudes and Behaviors Using Young Adult Literature

**Reading and Social Mobility** – Sammons et al., 2015. Subject to Background: What promotes better achievement for bright but disadvantaged students?