

A Quick Guide to Book Bands

Book bands are a way of establishing a pathway of progression in reading. Teachers can match texts to the needs of individual students. Book bands commonly begin at lilac and are available up to black plus which are used in the higher primary years and into secondary schools.

The Bloomsbury readers are aimed at students aged 6 – 11 and many fit into the 'Hi-Lo' category of texts. 'Hi-Lo' (High interest – low ability) texts offer interesting content at a level accessible to children who may lack confidence or reading ability.

Year Group	Age	Book Band
Year 2 / Primary 3	6-7 years old	Lime
Year 3 / Primary 4	7-8 years old	Brown
Year 4 / Primary 5	8-9 years old	Grey
Year 5 / Primary 6	9-10 years old	Dark Blue
Year 6 / Primary 7	10-11 years old	Dark red

Book Band	Emerging	Expected	Confident Exceeding	Above Exceeding
Lime	Year 3, Year 4		Year 2	
Brown	Year 4, Year 5	Year 3	Year 2	
Grey	Year 5, Year 6	Year 4	Year 3	Year 2
Dark Blue	Year 6	Year 5	Year 4	Year 3
Dark Red		Year 6	Year 5	Year 4

