

NATIONAL TEEN BOOK CLUB



10th November - 8th December 2021

A first of a kind programme, bringing together thousands of 14 to 19-year-olds, from hundreds of state schools and colleges, across every corner of the UK, to a shared, virtual book club.

Over five weeks, young people and school facilitators will connect in the cloud from home, or project in a space on school campus, for our weekly event every Wednesday, 3.30pm to 4.30pm. Each week, we will cover three key elements:



Share a reading experience

Reading the same book at the same pace, thousands of young people discuss in small breakouts online at home, or with their school group on campus.



Hear from award-winning authors

Meeting eminent authors, publishers and writers, gaining valuable insights into careers and a live Q&A to learn more about their stories and their pathways.



Skill up and become a published author

Growing in skills and confidence with activities and guidance to write a 1000-word creative piece, published in our first of a kind virtual library.

Between each week, young people read the next chapters of our shared book, engage in activities and conversation online and make progress on writing their own creative piece.

Every 1000-word creative piece and its young person author is published in our virtual library. All pieces will be read by our expert panel and four pieces will be chosen to be featured and authors will receive an exclusive coaching session with an award-winning author.



PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Across the programme, young people grow together, becoming published authors through weekly skill building topics that take you through the five stages of building a book. Every week, young people will hear from eminent authors and inspiring figures from the literary world:

Week 1

Research

10th November 2021,
3.30pm-4.30pm



Tom Palmer

Award-winning
children's Author

Week 2

Structure

17th November 2021,
3.30pm-4.30pm



**Candice Carty
Williams**

Award-winning
Author

Week 3

Drafting

24th November 2021,
3.30pm-4.30pm



Eve Ainsworth

Award-winning
children's Author

Week 4

Illustrating

1st December 2021,
3.30pm-4.30pm



Kate Grove

Art Director and
Illustrator

Week 5

Q+A

8th December 2021,
3.30pm-4.30pm



Sue Cheung

Award-winning
Author

COHORT BOOK: CHINGLISH

Across the programme, young people read through our chosen book and then share their thoughts each week in online, live discussions. The National Teen Book Club book chosen for this cohort is *Chinglish* by Sue Cheung.

Chinglish is a 400-page young adult book, that follows Jo Kwan's family running a Chinese takeaway in Coventry during the eighties.

Jo's diary entries and cartoons give a hilarious picture of her awkward life as she deals with bullies, identity, annoying siblings, friendship dramas and fashion disasters.



SCHOOL AND COLLEGE INFORMATION

To participate, schools and colleges need to manage registration for their young people with our easy and safeguarded system and ensure that each young person has the book. *Chinglish* can be purchased by the school or college for their young people in paperback for £4 per copy. Alternatively, the e-book will be available to download for 99p.

Participating schools and colleges can register an unlimited number of young people, advance their literacy skills and confidence and supporting Gatsby Benchmark 5 achievement. All young people who complete the programme become published authors with our virtual library and the programme rewards our best schools and colleges with promotion and glass awards.



- Most engaged school 2021 award
- Best creative talent 2021 award
- Top author 2021 award

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How much is the programme?

Our programme is entirely free thanks to the contributions of all of our partners. Every young person needs to have a copy of the book club book of course. It is theirs to keep as a hard copy or e-book purchased by the school or college in bulk via Speakers for Schools for a discounted price.

How do my young people access the programme?

The entire programme is hosted in our Google Classroom space. Every young person gets a unique login to that space to engage with our activities and materials. During the five weeks of the programme, every Wednesday we have our weekly event. The schools or college can choose to host the weekly event in a classroom or assembly hall, on campus or have young people join from home. Hosting on campus means the facilitator will log in and project the video into the classroom and interact with their young people for the interactive activities.

Do I need any skills or training in Google Classroom?

Absolutely not. We are doing all the hard work in facilitating the event, so you do not have to. Whether the school or college is hosting each week, or young people are joining from home, it is a simple system to enter the login details we share and then we will guide you through the rest.

What safeguarding is in place for the programme?

Once registered, schools and colleges will receive communications from us. We need the school email addresses of your young people in order to send them their individual log in details to the Google Classroom space. That protects their identity in our classroom as there is no personally identifiable information or contact ability beyond the programme. The Speakers for Schools and Book Clubs in Schools team are DBS checked as the hosts, and everything the young people participate in takes place in our Google Classroom, a fully audited platform.

Do we need to join each week, or can we just attend one week?

This is a full programme, and the benefits are felt with the progression across the weeks. Together, young people will meet a diverse range of speakers, gain skills in different areas and work to produce their creative pieces and become a published author in our National Teen Book Club Virtual Library. So, you will need to be with us each week.

Does this hit Gatsby Benchmarks for careers guidance?

We have crafted the programme to support the achievement of Gatsby Benchmark 5 given the skill building and connection to career opportunities and employers.

What is the next step?

Sign up via our registration link, fill in the details and we will be in touch to get you and your young people set up.

REGISTER NOW

To register your young people, fill in the registration form [here](#).

If you're a young person wishing to enter, fill in the registration form [here](#).