

NATIONAL TEEN BOOK CLUB

A first of a kind programme, bringing together 11 to 19-year-olds from hundreds of state schools and colleges, across every corner of the UK, to a shared virtual Book Club.

Over four weeks, young people will connect online from school or college with an educator for our weekly event every Wednesday, 3.30pm to 4.30pm. Each week, we cover three key elements:



Share a reading experience

Read the same book at the same pace and discuss with peers in school or college and with other groups of students online.



Hear from award-winning authors

Gain insights and advice from authors, illustrators, publishers and literary agents - as well as speakers from varied career backgrounds with a passion for reading or links to the book.

The final week Q+A session will be with the author of the book we are reading!



Skill up and become published

Grow in skills and confidence to produce a creative writing or art piece which will be published in our first of a kind Virtual Library and Exhibition – the best entries will win exclusive prizes!

Between sessions, young people read the next chapters of our shared book, engage in activities and conversation online and make progress producing their creative works.

EDUCATOR INFORMATION

To participate, educators need to manage registration for their young people with our easy and safeguarded system and ensure that each young person has the book. The chosen book can be purchased by the school or college in hard copy or young people can buy e-books for a highly discounted rate.

Participating schools and colleges can register an unlimited number of young people, advancing their literacy skills and confidence and supporting Gatsby Benchmark 5 achievement.



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.

How do my young people access the programme?

National Teen Book Club is delivered using Google Classroom and Microsoft Teams. Every young person aged 14-19 and educator gets a unique login to Google to access our Classroom space and engage with our activities and materials (access to our resources is only available for 11-13 through their educator). During the four weeks of the programme, every Wednesday we have our weekly live event on Microsoft Teams. The event link is shared on Google Classroom and the school or college will need to host and facilitate this in a classroom or assembly hall on campus.

Do I need any skills or training in Google Classroom or Microsoft Teams?

Absolutely not. It is a simple system to enter into Google the login details we share and then we will guide you through the rest. Microsoft Teams and Google Classroom are very easy and intuitive to use and we provide a handbook for each Book Club with more information. We recommend downloading the Microsoft Teams application for ease of access.

Does this programme support the study of English in school and college?

Like the National Curriculum, National Teen Book Club encourages young people to read widely for pleasure while developing knowledge, skills and confidence in responding critically, evaluatively and creatively. The programme provides a chance to read, understand and share a personal response to a different text each cycle, examining the language, form and structure used by the writer and considering the book's themes in relation to its context.

What safeguarding is in place for the programme?

In response to requests, we are pleased to be able to welcome young people aged 11+ as well as our core audience of 14-19. Access to live sessions for all students is through their educator.

Once registered, we need the school email addresses of your young people aged 14-19 in order to send them their individual login details for Google to access the Google Classroom space (access is only available for ages 11-13 through their educator). This means they can access resources in between live sessions on Microsoft Teams, which they will still access as part of a group joining from school or college. As their login is unique, it protects their identity in our Classroom, ensuring there is no personally identifiable information or contact ability beyond the programme. Google Classroom is a fully audited platform and our Q&A during our Microsoft Teams live event is fully moderated. The Speakers for Schools team are also DBS checked as the hosts.

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

You will need to join us each week to gain the full benefit of the programme. However, we know things come up: rest assured that any adult facilitator is able to cover the session. We provide a series of prompts that will support them in doing this, as well as our weekly Book Club questions.

Does this hit Gatsby Benchmarks for careers guidance?

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

What is the next step?

Sign up via the registration links on our website. Once you've done this we'll be in touch to get you and your young people set up.

REGISTER NOW

Complete the [form](#) to register your young people for 2022/23.
For more information head to our website [here](#).

Sign up to our National Teen Book Club mailing list [here](#).

