

# Experience National Teen

# Book Club



Students connect online with other 11 to 19-year-olds from state schools and colleges for our shared virtual Book Club, in partnership with Penguin.

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

## Share a reading experience

Read the same book independently and **discuss with peers** in school or college and with other groups of students across the UK.

## 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 is always **with the author** of the book we are reading!



# Frequently Asked Questions

## How much is the programme?

All you have to pay for is the heavily discounted book! The chosen book can be purchased by the school or college in hard copy or young people can buy eBooks or audiobooks.

## How do my young people access the programme?

To participate, educators need to register their young people – an unlimited number of young people – with our easy and safeguarded system, and ensure that each young person has our featured book. National Teen Book Club is delivered online using Microsoft Teams. During the four weeks of the programme, every Wednesday at 3.30–4.30pm, we have our weekly live event. The event link is shared via email with educators, who will need to host and facilitate the session in a classroom or assembly hall on campus. Additional information, including a Handbook, is available on our website.

## Do I need any skills or training in Microsoft Teams?

Absolutely not. We recommend downloading the app for ease, then simply click the event links to join the live sessions. We will guide you through the rest.

## What books are read as part of National Teen Book Club?

We read a diverse range of books and enjoy six per academic year. Details of our upcoming books are shared on our website. You can also stay up-to-date by signing up to our mailing list.

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

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.

## Does Book Club support the PSHE Curriculum?

Young Adult fiction deals with topical, challenging and sometimes controversial themes, many of which link to the PSHE curriculum, and which are often explored from new perspectives.

## Does this hit Gatsby Benchmarks for careers guidance?

National Teen Book Club supports the achievement of Gatsby Benchmark 5 through skill-building and connection to career opportunities and employers.

## Does the programme support the Skills Builder framework?

National Teen Book Club links to the Skills Builder Framework for essential skills – most closely the skills of Listening and Speaking – to support participants in recognising and celebrating the skills developed through their active participation.

## What safeguarding is in place?

Access to live sessions for all students is through their educator. This means that educators must host sessions, and facilitate their discussion and interaction with other schools and colleges online in breakout rooms.

Our Code of Conduct and guidelines for using Microsoft Teams appropriately can be found in our Handbook. Anyone misusing the chat function or failing to behave in accordance with our Code of Conduct at any time during the session will be removed. The Speakers for Schools team are also DBS checked as the hosts. Trigger warnings will be provided, but please note that YA fiction is aimed at readers 14+. However, in response to requests we are pleased to welcome young people aged 11-13 alongside our core audience, as long as you are happy that the reading material is suitable for your students.

## 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. If any of your students are unable to attend, they'll be able to watch the recording back on Vimeo via our website. We know things may come up for the educator too: rest assured that any adult facilitator is able to cover the session.

All they will need to do is encourage attendees to consider our Book Club questions and share their response with others in the breakout room.

## INTERESTED? REGISTER...

Complete the [form here](#) to register your students

For more information head to our [website here](#)

Sign up to our [mailing list here](#) for NTBC updates

