

## WELCOME!

We're delighted you've joined our nationwide map of book-loving schools. This booklet tells you a little about what to expect and how to make the most of any books received.

## ABOUT US

The Children's Book Project is a national charity that believes every child should have access to good quality, exciting and relevant books. We'd like every child to feel part of a wider reading community and to draw inspiration and pleasure from words and pictures.

We work with schools across the UK to match families whose children have grown out of their books with communities that have fewer books of their own. In turn, we invite practitioners in these settings to use these books in whichever way(s) will have greatest benefit to the children and young people they support.

## YOUR SCHOOL IS ON THE MAP

Your school has been added to our national map of settings that would like to receive books for their community. Local families can click on your school icon to register and then bring the books to your reception during school hours. We strongly encourage you to brief front office staff so that anyone arriving to donate is welcomed by someone familiar with the initiative.

Families that bring books to your school may have travelled some way and / or may be passing on books that are important to them. If possible, try to ensure they are thanked.





## BRIEF ALL STAFF

Tell your colleagues about the school's plan to take in donations of good quality books that can be used to augment the library offer, classroom corners or to put on book gifting events. Show them the website, the map and how to find your school.

Staff will want to promote amongst their friends and will help your programme to generate momentum. Included in this pack are resources that you can use in the front office and staffroom to ensure staff remain aware of the school's involvement.



## MAKE A PLAN FOR ANY DONATED BOOKS

Use the ideas on the following page and talk to colleagues to plan how books could be most useful for the school. Consider plans for 50+ books and for larger volume donations. You might want to store books as they are donated and do something with a larger volume once collected, or use them as they arrive.

Plan where you will store donated books and who can help sort through donations. Make time to weed out any unwanted books and consider where these will go.



## LAUNCH TO PARENTS AND THE COMMUNITY

Use the school newsletter to share the initiative with parents and governors and encourage them to share onwards. This alone will drive donations, though remember to stress the importance of good condition books.



## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

We will celebrate all your bookish adventures!

 [lonbookproject](#)

 [childrensbookprojectUK](#)

 [childrensbookproject](#)



We've gifted over 500k books to children across London in the past three years. Following are some of the ways these books have been enjoyed and have found new homes with babies, children and young people in more than 300 settings. Contact us if you would like more info on any of these, and share with us any other ideas you have.



Open a  
Book Hut &  
encourage  
book swaps



Plug gaps in  
the library.  
Or start one.



Pre-holiday  
gifting packs

Reading  
competitions,  
awards and  
prizes

Launch a  
free  
school  
bookshop

Book Week  
author focus

Summer fair  
prizes:  
choose a  
book

Transition  
gifts for  
EYFS and  
Year 6



# WHAT NEXT?

Over the next six months we will be raising awareness amongst families nationwide of the opportunity to donate their pre-loved books within their community. We will direct them to our national map and invite them to drop their books off at settings close to home.

We are also inviting schools nationwide whose families have books at home to run book drives on our behalf, to pre-sort these and to donate them to a local school. If you know of a school that might be willing to do this, do tell them about us.

You can help drive more books to your school by raising awareness within your local community and by helping make the drop off process as simple as possible for donor families.

We will celebrate and share all your bookish activities, so remember to tag us in your social media posts or simply get in touch to tell us what you're up to.

Email us at [schools@childrensbookproject.co.uk](mailto:schools@childrensbookproject.co.uk) with any questions or with feedback on the impact that books have had in your school.

Children's Book Project ambassador and children's author Maz Evans is also excited to hear about your successes: "This is a scheme that runs entirely on kindness - and there is so much around. It is my privilege to work with The Children's Book Project to make sure every child can access the joy of books and reading."

