

**Get  
Hounslow  
Reading**



# Conference 2023

Get Hounslow Reading – Keep Hounslow Reading

## Post-conference report

Nikola Standing

Primary Project Manager

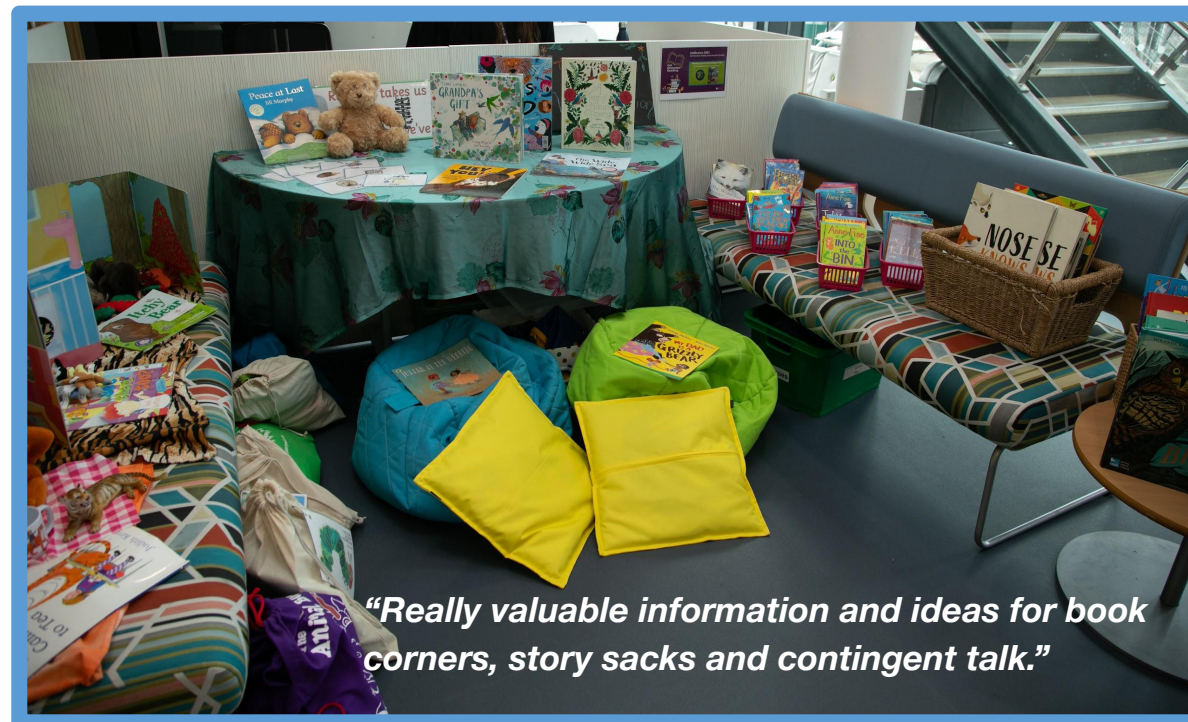
GHR Project Leader

Get Hounslow Reading is a long-term primary project developed to meet the reading needs of schools across the borough.

Support for reading has been identified through Peer Challenge time and again.

GHR was launched in June 2021, following consultation with primary Headteachers and supported with funding from the Local Authority.

GHR is steeped in Open University RfP research pedagogies.



# Ambitions

We wanted to offer teachers a long-term programme over three years, delivering six workshops for each phase across the year.

Alongside Reading for Pleasure, we wanted to include a Contingent Talk programme to encourage language development in the Early Years.

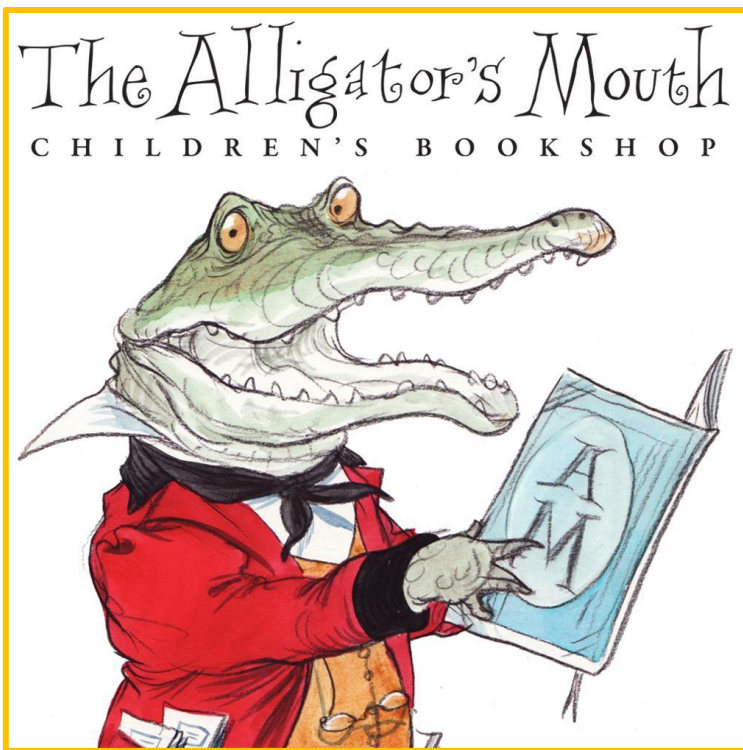
We needed an expert facilitator – Charlotte Raby – to deliver the programme.





# Partnerships

We formed partnerships with organisations like Just Imagine story centre and The Alligator's Mouth book shop to deliver the highest quality texts to meet and celebrate the pupils' diverse needs across the borough.





## The story so far ...

Since our launch, we've worked with over 350 teachers and practitioners, in some capacity, in 44 primary schools.

We have reached about 10,000 pupils across the borough.

We have created 40 case studies to reflect on our practice. Some of these are beginning to appear on the [Everybody Read!](#) webpage.



## The story so far ...



Together, we have:

Delivered 62 hours

Created 23 Padlets

Welcomed 51 Ambassadors

Launched the GHR newsletter

Delivered 2200 free books to schools





# Teachers wanted to meet face-to-face

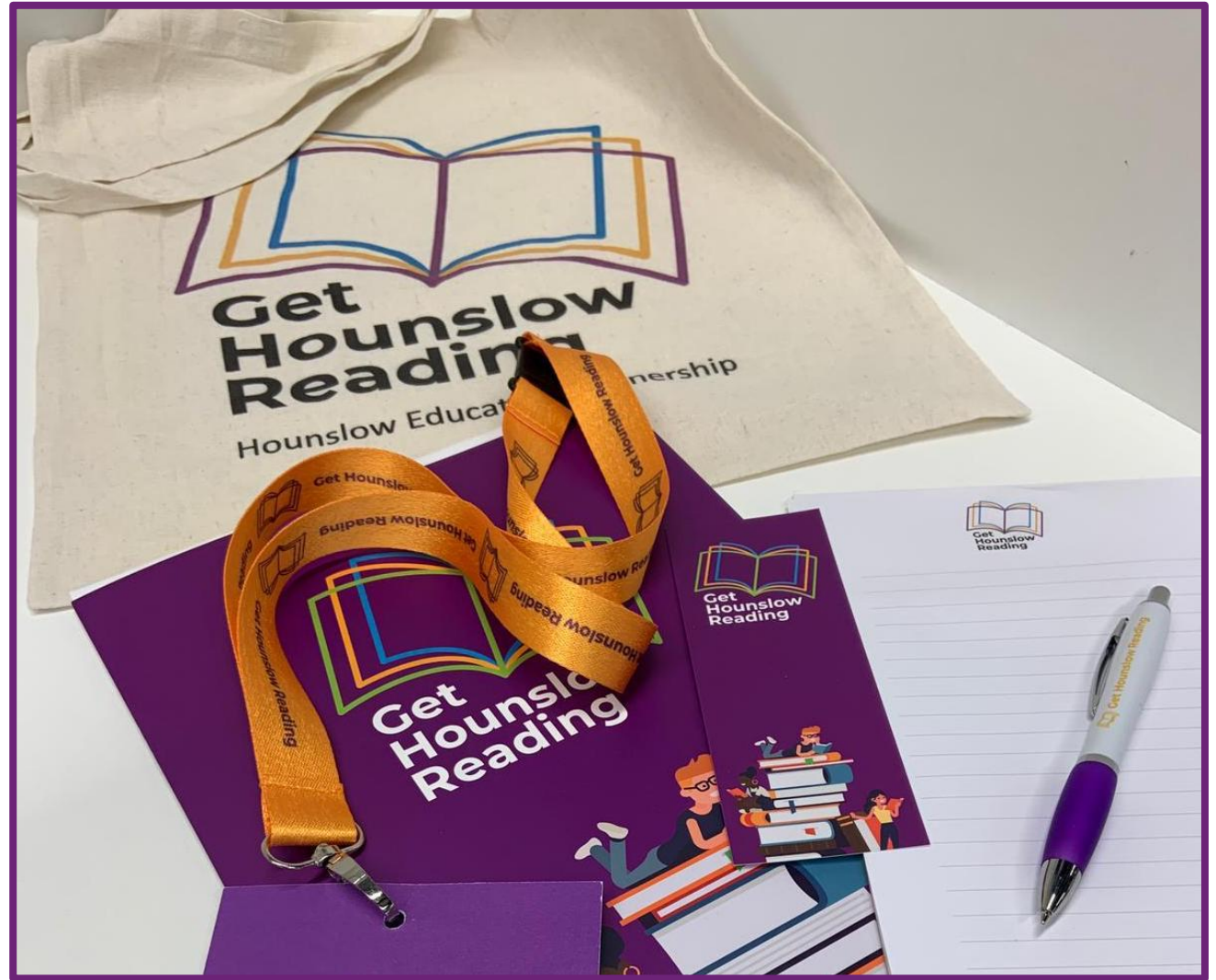
## Ambitions:

- Half-day conference
- Ambassadors run workshops
- Ambassadors share their practice

## Aims:

### To help Hounslow schools:

- Take the project more into their own hands
- Grow networks of teachers
- Ensure RfP pedagogy remains authentic and rooted in teaching





# The Conference 2023

The conference brought together 111 people:

- 36 primary schools
- 98 delegates
  - 63 Reading for Pleasure and Contingent Talk Practitioners
  - 30 Ambassadors
  - 5 SLT/HTs
- 3 secondary teachers
- Local authors
- A book shop
- A publisher
- Keynote speakers



Thank you to our Ambassador keynotes:  
Lauren McCarthy, Lise Bentley, Matt Powell, Christine Lovett & Kathryn Sikora

# Conference Feedback – The Delegates

**81% of delegates submitted responses to the conference evaluation**

## **99% of delegates:**

- Understand the support on offer to embed RfP in their setting
- Valued meeting, chatting and networking with colleagues from other schools
- Found speakers engaging and inspirational
- Said workshops gave them ideas to take back to school
- Said the conference met their overall expectations





# The Conference 2023 – Our Teachers



*“I was inspired by the speakers and it was lovely to eventually put heads and faces to real people not on a screen. It was a lovely opportunity to share ideas and magpie ideas from others.”*





# The Conference 2023 – Making a difference

*“It was so lovely to see so many people who are interested in improving children's lives through reading. We are planning to train all TAs in the school to use contingent talk to enable more children to benefit.”*



*“I think the idea of having a Reading for Pleasure Lead in a school is extremely helpful and beneficial for the children and the staff.”*



*“The conference reinforced the importance of supporting the children in our schools to develop a love of reading.”*



**Thank you to Crane Park staff and pupils who agreed to have their Reading for Pleasure filmed.**

# The Conference 2023 – Ways to engage the whole community

The Blue School ran a book-swap stall



St Richard's shared their whole school approach to Reading for Pleasure.

Norwood Green N&I School ran the Padlet Station



*"Padlets are a great way to engage our whole school community, in particular Parent Padlets."*

Jonny Walker had everyone interacting with this playful poem.





# The Conference 2023 – Our Ambassador Workshops

## Recommendation & Creation Stations



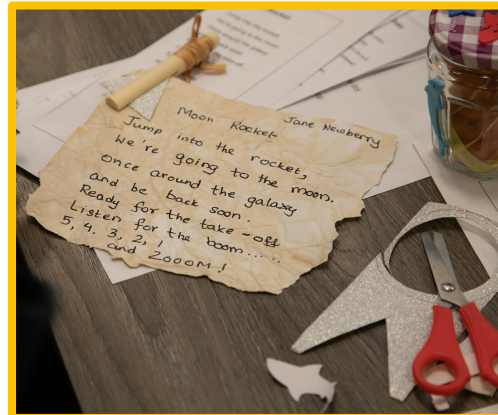
*“The poetry jars made in the workshop - a lovely idea and a creative way to engage and immerse children in poetry.”*



*“I left feeling empowered and inspired, really ready to trial what I've learned in my own context.”*



*“The creation station ideas were amazing.”*



*“It was great to see how other school's were embedding Reading for Pleasure.”*



Adam Maynard, Westbrook Primary and Krina Sherriff, Wellington Primary  
Lise Bentley, Beavers Community Primary and Emma Knight, Crane Park Primary



# The Conference 2023 – Our Ambassador Workshops

## Reading Aloud & Poetry



*“Excellent ideas to implement in wider school practice. It was great to see how other schools were embedding reading for pleasure.”*

*“I am going to read more nonsense poetry.”*

*“Time to pause on poetry to digest and express rather than just examine it.”*

*“Encouraging children to encounter a poem.”*

*“The poetry workshop was particularly useful in reflecting on my own experiences of poetry and how to break down teaching poetry into enjoyable, shared experiences.”*



**Tracy Riddell, Norwood Green N&I and Charlotte Raby  
Jonny Walker and Anna Redmond, Bedfont Primary**

# The Conference 2023 – Our Speakers & Organisers

*“The enthusiasm of the speakers and the poetry speaker made me want to take myself to a poetry camp immediately. Thanks for coordinating a really engaging conference. Genuinely proud to have been part of it!”*

*“The conference was absolutely brilliant. The speakers were engaging and inspirational, the resources available were useful and the workshop was very valuable.”*

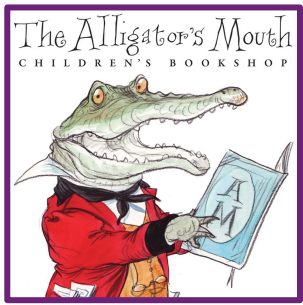
*“The understanding that no matter what space you have available, you can make it into an interactive and useful space for children. Poetry is a fantastic way of allowing children to express themselves and deepen their understanding of language.”*

*“The level of effort and quality that went into organising the event (guest speakers, Alligator's Mouth, caterers, etc.) was very impressive – it felt like a very high-level event!”*



What our delegates had to say ...





## The Conference 2023 – Our guests had something to say ...

*“It was great to chat to teachers - we're really keen to reach schools in Hounslow. We'd be delighted to have more opportunities to mingle with teachers – it's so useful to find out what they are doing and how we can help.”*

*“If speakers are talking about specific books, we would love to know in advance so we can make sure we have them on our stall.  
It would also be very useful to give a short talk about the shop. We could let teachers know what we offer for schools, and also enthuse about some of our favourite new, exciting and unusual books.”*

*“Very happy to share with stall holders, especially with Zoe and with the school that was exhibiting (St Richard's) - really interesting display.”*







## The Conference 2023 – Our guests had something to say ...

*“We absolutely loved your event. Thank you so much for inviting us. It was a pleasure to be there and to see so many happy teachers making such a difference. Organising events like that takes so much effort – I have been there many times! Congratulations to you for pulling it altogether and for running such a successful event with so many brilliant speakers.”*

*“I think your speakers were excellent, so informative and so immersed in their world, you could feel it. Charlotte is always amazing! We chatted with our neighbours and I think that as we were all there for the same thing, the range of authors and publishers worked well.”*

*“I think the goody bags helped, and the cakes! The delegates were great in that they were willing to come up to us and your introductions helped.”*



# The Conference 2023 – Our guests had something to say ...



*“Well done and thank you for a wonderful occasion that I was very pleased and grateful to be a part of. I thought the amount of time for all the speakers was just right. It was great to have so many different people speaking for short bursts.”*



*“The poet in particular was great to hear from. I'd love to be at one of his outdoorsy workshops myself! Great inclusion of videos, visuals and multimedia in all the presentations too.”*

*“I would definitely attend again if invited. I would love to offer a talk. If time is limited it would be great to just have a 2-5min slot to let people know who I am and what I have to offer and to invite them to come and ask questions.”*



**Zoe Antoniades**



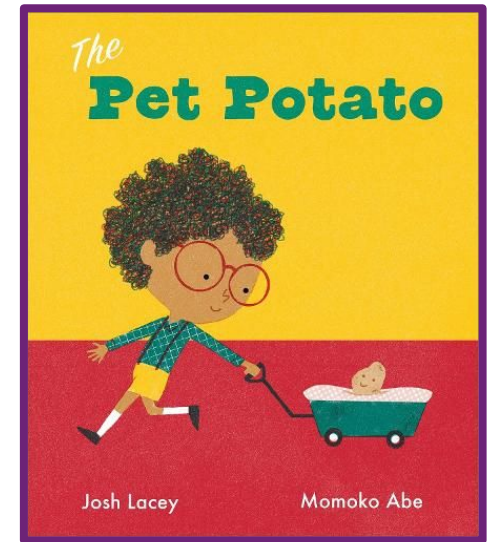
# The Conference 2023 – Our guests had something to say ...



*“Thanks for inviting me. I’m so pleased that I was visiting a nearby school, so I could come over afterwards. I was very impressed by the conference: the excellent speakers, the big audience, and the warm and friendly atmosphere.”*



*“I’d be very happy to attend again. If you’d be interested, I could give a talk about reading and writing, and/or author visits in schools, and/or creativity and creative writing.”*



**Josh Lacey**

# The Conference 2023 – Our guests had something to say ...

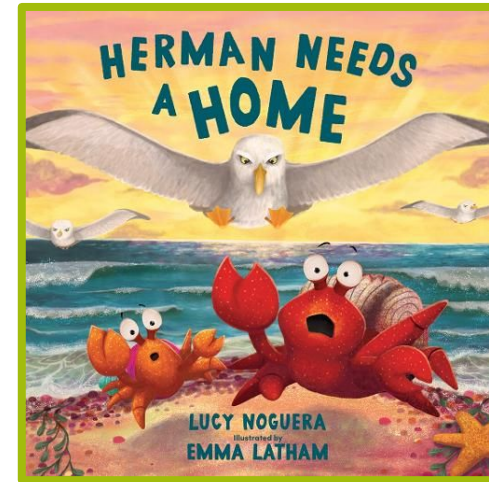
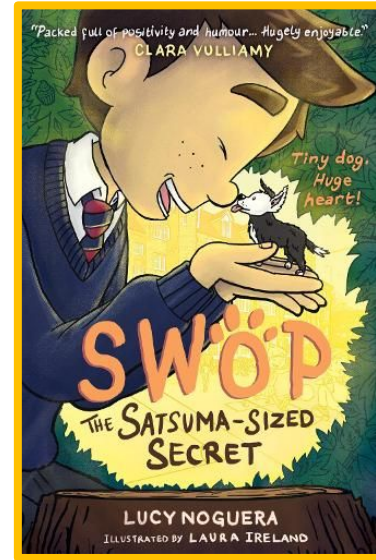


*"Lovely bright space, just the right size, felt intimate not too big and very fit for purpose."*

*"All great info before the conference. I liked how we knew who else would be there and the timings. Lovely newsletter and great communication about the day ahead."*

*"It might be useful for teachers to hear how an author event can run effectively and impact on the reading for pleasure within a school."*

*"It was a great event and I did really enjoy it, the teachers clearly got a lot out of it too and your hard work shined through!"*



**Lucy Noguera**



# The Conference 2023 – Our guests had something to say ...

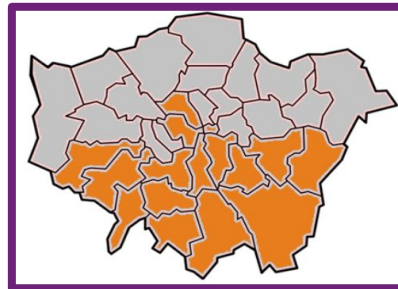
*“Thank you so much for inviting me to the conference. It was a brilliant event.”*

**EnglishHubs**  
Wandle at Chesterton Primary

Funded by



Department  
for Education



*“It was great to get a chance to network during the staggered breaks and talk to teachers.”*

*“Communication was clear on the run up to the event. The email with timings, travel info, etc was helpful.”*

*“Happy to help anyway I can - it was great to share info about how the Hub can support your schools.”*



**Matthew Courtney**





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Conference Video





# The Conference 2023 – Listening to our teachers drives this project

Here are some of their thoughts on how we can improve on this year's conference

- Whole day conference
- Attend more workshops and make them longer
- More time to explore Padlets
- Short introductory talks from local authors and booksellers
- Attendance and further involvement of SLT
- More on parental engagement
- How the project has worked in our SEND schools
- Pupil voice – future film
- Work with secondary schools

*“I would love for it to be a whole day with multiple workshops to attend rather than only choosing one. It was so hard to choose!”*

*“Would love it if there was one linked to reading in secondary school.”*

*“I could give a talk about reading and writing, author visits in schools, and/or creativity and creative writing.”*

*“Would be great to see SLT from each school attending.”*



**The future of Get Hounslow Reading is in the hands of our teachers and practitioners.**

# Get Hounslow Reading – What's next?

## Year 3 of the project

Deliver workshops to **new delegates** – starting in June 2023

Focus on **Ambassadors** with half termly meetings to enable networking opportunities to:

- Get more books in children's hands
- Work towards handing over the Contingent Talk programme to ambassadors
- Explore and achieve RfP quality marks and awards
- Continue to publish the GHR Newsletter
- Plan a whole day conference in March 2024
- More visits to schools to support, advise and share practice



**Ambassadors in each school will ensure the legacy continues**



# Get Hounslow Reading – What's next?

Beyond Year 3 of the project



- Ambassadors will continue to support colleagues
- GHR newsletter will update schools with new developments, research and best books
- RfP and Contingent Talk will continue as termly network sessions
- The introduction of Champion Schools who have successfully completed three years of GHR, will continue to support colleagues across Hounslow's schools



# Get Hounslow Reading – What's next?

What we need from you ...



- We hope you've enjoyed reading our report
- Complete a quick survey to feedback your thoughts on the project so far
- Speak to your staff and register new teachers to start the programme in June
- Get in touch to arrange a visit to introduce your whole staff to the project





# Get Hounslow Reading – Impact

## The Reading Cafe & Comic Club

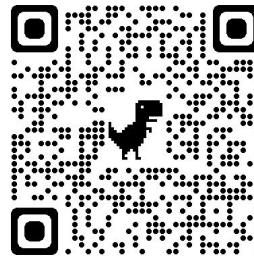


# If you want to get in touch ...

Project Leader

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Get Hounslow Reading – <https://www.hounsloweducationpartnership.co.uk/get-hounslow-reading-2/>



Scan the code to take you straight to GHR's webpage







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Thank you to all our schools for supporting this amazing project to Get Hounslow Reading.