

Berkshire Book Award 2026 – Key Information

Key Dates

7 October – Launch and Nominations for Longlist

18 November – Nominations close

TBC – Longlist announced

20 January – Longlist voting closes

3 February – Shortlist announced at event at Reading Blue Coat School

TBC – Shortlist voting closes

TBC – Winner announced

Voting Process

Students can vote online by heading to the website, or teachers and librarians can post online votes on behalf of their students. You can collect up paper votes and add them to the website for your students. There will be a shortlist event at Reading Blue Coat School on 3rd February 2027. Please save the date! Priority will be given to sponsoring and subscribing schools. We plan to one just one award this year, with a variety of different books suitable for a range of ages from Years 6/7 upwards. There will be age guidance if books selected may not suit younger students.

CHARGES FOR AND BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATION

The subscription fee of £35 per school will remain in place this year. This small fee covers the cost of the website, social media and events. The award does cost money to run each year with website fees being our most expensive outgoing, and events after that. We are kindly sponsored by an Independent and three State Schools, as well as Newt Books and have received donations from an independent doner in the last couple of years. Whilst this keeps us afloat, finances are very tight. We are not a registered charity (as we don't have enough income to qualify) so don't benefit from grant money in any way. Schools who pay the fee will get exclusive access to the book club materials, priority booking at any events and exclusive author material throughout the year. None of this will be freely available on the website or social media, but will be sent to participating schools independently. If you are happy to participate in the award this year, please contact us and we will get an invoice sent to you.

Any queries should be made via the website -

<https://www.berkshirebookaward.org.uk/contact>