



KPMG CHILDREN'S BOOKS IRELAND AWARDS – JUNIOR JURIES' FAQs

What are Junior Juries?

Formerly known as the CBI Shadowing Scheme, Junior Juries are a unique programme for schools, libraries and book clubs, designed to encourage reading for pleasure and appreciation for a wide variety of books. Participating classes and book clubs make their own selection of suitable titles from the KPMG Children's Books Ireland Awards shortlist, which is announced in March. Using a specially devised activity pack, each group can engage with their chosen books by taking part in quizzes, debates, discussions, research projects, creative writing and visual art activities which will enhance their reading experience. At the end of the process each group is asked to collectively score the books they have read. Children's Books Ireland collates these scores to determine the winner of the Junior Juries' Award, formerly the Children's Choice Award, which is presented by Junior Jury members at the official prize-giving ceremony in May.

Who is the Junior Juries' scheme suitable for?

The Junior Juries are suitable for all ages from 0–18. The books featured on the shortlist can range from picturebooks to young adult novels. However, given the 'pick-and-mix' structure of the scheme, it is possible to select a range of titles to suit your students' or book club members' age, linguistic ability and reading-level. We have had baby and toddler book clubs take part, and on the upper end, groups of older teenagers through school or local book clubs. There is no need for a group to read every book on the shortlist, unless they wish to do so.

What does it cost?

Participation in Junior Juries is *completely free* and includes a printed activity pack, bookmarks, a poster and phone/email support from Children's Books Ireland. Groups will need to source the books themselves; many groups involved in the scheme work in partnership with their local public library service and borrow the books. 25% discount is available for Junior Juries when purchasing from International Education Services (<http://iesltd.ie/>). Schools in need which meet certain criteria can apply to receive the shortlisted books and a visit from a shortlisted artist (see details overleaf).

Does Children's Books Ireland provide the books for Junior Juries to read?

Children's Books Ireland cannot provide all juries with the shortlisted books. We suggest getting in touch with your local library to see which of the books you can borrow, or sharing reading copies within the group. However, with thanks to the Arts Council of Northern Ireland and Ecclesiastical, through their Movement for Good Awards we do have funding to purchase books for a limited number of schools across the island, who demonstrate a need. Please indicate this on the registration form. Please note that this is not a cash grant and there are limited numbers of books available.

Does our group have to read all the books?

No, you do not have to read all the books on the shortlist. Not every book will be suitable for all age groups, and we recognise that there is limited time between the announcement of the shortlist on March 9 and the deadline for Junior Juries' votes which is **May 8, 2020**. We will provide guidelines in the free Junior Juries' activity pack in relation to any issues that may be raised in books for older children and teenagers, but we do recommend reading the book yourself if you have any concern about sharing it. We do encourage all groups to read the picturebooks that may feature on the shortlist: these are not just for toddlers; older readers can get a lot out of them, too! One of the goals of the Junior Juries' is for children and young people to develop their critical thinking and debating skills, so even if a book seems 'too young', it can be read by an older child or teenager.

How do we pick which books to read?

There are lots of different methods to choose from. The method you choose should reflect what will work best for your group:

- Prescriptive – Facilitator chooses all the books
- Child-led – Each participant has a turn to choose a book for the group to read
- Popular vote – The facilitator chooses a number of suitable titles and the group makes the final selection from these

When will the book list be available?

The shortlist will be announced on **March 9, 2020**. We will email all Junior Juries the list of shortlisted titles, and the activity packs will also be delivered that week.

Do groups have to be based in a school?

Does a whole class have to take part?

No, any group can take part. Many juries are school-based, and these can be whole classes, smaller book clubs or reading groups, or paired reading groups i.e. older children facilitating younger children. Other groups include book clubs based in bookshops or libraries, or hosted by parents in their own homes. There is no minimum or maximum number of readers for a Junior Jury.

How do we score the books and vote for the KPMG Junior Juries' Award?

A scoring or ballot sheet is included in your Junior Juries pack. It is helpful to make a copy of this for every juror in the group so they can score the books they read as they go along. We ask for each juror to score each book they've read out of 100. The group leader then collates the scores, finds the average score for each book read and sends these back to Children's Books Ireland by **May 8, 2020**.

Opportunities for support and ways to engage with the Junior Juries' scheme:

Shortlisted author or illustrator visits and books: Would your group like to apply for a shortlisted author or illustrator to visit your school for a class event between March 9 and May 20, 2020? Schools and groups can access Children's Books Ireland event guidelines here, to follow best practice.

Thanks to ongoing support from the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, all schools in Northern Ireland can apply for a visit from a shortlisted author or illustrator **and/or** a set of age-appropriate shortlisted books. Ten successful schools will receive artist visits, and books will be allocated based on need, with successful groups receiving at least ten books.

Thanks to the generosity of Ecclesiastical, through their Movement for Good Awards, primary schools can apply for a visit from a shortlisted author or illustrator and a set of approximately 20 age-appropriate shortlisted books. These will be available for each of 20 upper primary school groups (4th to 6th class in the Republic of Ireland or Primary 6 and 7 in Northern Ireland).

KPMG Junior Juries' volunteer: would you like a volunteer from KPMG to visit your school on **April 23**? Each volunteer will deliver an interactive hour-long workshop to enthuse young readers and hear their opinions on books and reading.

Junior Juries video: Would your group like to feature in a short film, offering their opinions on the shortlisted titles in recorded interviews? Children's Books Ireland records some video footage with our Junior Juries all over Ireland, which will be compiled into a short film and screened at the awards ceremony and then made available to view online. Filming will take place in your school or book club venue and all young people taking part need signed guardian/parental permission. You can see 2019's young readers [here](#). You can view Children's Books Ireland's Child Safeguarding Statement [here](#) and our Child Protection Policy [here](#).

Shortlist announcement event: Would your group like to attend the shortlist announcement in Belfast on **March 9** as part of the Belfast Children's Festival? The shortlist announcement will be accompanied by an author or illustrator event.

Awards announcement ceremony: Would your group like to attend the awards announcement in Dublin on **May 20** as part of the International Literature Festival Dublin and be in with a chance of presenting the Junior Juries' Award? This is a two-hour-long event preceded by refreshments and followed by our awards ceremony.

KPMG Reading Hero Award: As a group leader, would you like to nominate a young reader taking part in this scheme? Within Junior Juries all over the island of Ireland are extraordinary individuals whose participation in the programme and whose interest in books and reading outside of the awards is remarkable. They may be voracious readers, or may have completed their first book, overcoming learning or language difficulties to do so. The KPMG Reading Hero may have inspired their peers to get involved or may have made extraordinary efforts to engage with the activities set by their group leader. They may not be the best student or the fastest reader, but their efforts will merit reward, and we want to hear, and share, their story. The closing date for nominations to be received is **April 24, 2020**. The KPMG Reading Hero Award will be awarded at the ceremony in May.

If you are active on social media, you can use the hashtag **#ReadingHeroes** to share your reading journey.

For more information and resources, go to **childrensbooksireland.ie**

Follow us on social media!

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Important Dates

Monday, February 24	Closing date for registering your Junior Jury
Monday, March 9	KPMG Children's Books Ireland Awards Shortlist announced in Belfast – <u>Junior Juries begin!</u>
Thursday, April 23	KPMG Junior Juries' volunteer day
Friday, April 24	KPMG Reading Hero Award nomination deadline (nominations returned to Children's Books Ireland)
Friday, May 8	Junior Juries' vote deadline (votes returned to Children's Books Ireland)
Wednesday, May 20	KPMG Children's Books Ireland Awards ceremony

Registration

To register, please fill out a registration form available on www.childrensbooksireland.ie
Forms are available as an editable PDF or in Word format, to be returned by email to awards@childrensbooksireland.ie. Typed forms preferred.
They may also be returned by post to the address listed below.

TESTIMONIALS

'It was a really great project to be a part of. In the teen bookclub, they had a courtroom debate as recommended in the shadowing pack. It was great to see them get to into the project. In our children's bookclub, they took a larger selection of the books and some of them read to their younger siblings which was a lovely side project. We are also twinned with a children's bookclub in Michigan and exchange postcards with them. In our April package, we sent them over some of the Children's Books Ireland bookmarks and told them about the shadowing scheme. They thought it was a great idea!'

Ciara Hogan, Celbridge Library

'The OLS Junior Book Club read and discussed five of the titles shortlisted for this year's CBI Book of the Year Awards. Having shadowed the awards in previous years, the announcement of the shortlist was hotly anticipated by the group and we eagerly delved into our selection of books. The shadowing resource pack guided our reading and we met each week for lively and rigorous discussion of themes, narrative, character development, writing style and plot. The group thoroughly enjoyed giving their considered opinions and debating the merits of each of the books. The students were especially excited by contributing their votes towards the Children's Choice Award [now the Junior Juries Award] and were delighted to see their favourite book, Flying Tips for Flightless Birds by Kelly McCaughrain, win an unprecedented hat-trick of awards at the ceremony in May.'

Kim Harte, Our Lady's School, Terenure, Dublin

'We had such a fantastic time this year taking part in the shadowing scheme ... absolutely super enthusiasm among the children, so much so that we will be continuing with the reading until the end of term!!'

Schira Murray, Ballyconnell N.S., Carlow

'As a teacher in an all-male school of 11-18-year-olds, it would be easy to assume that boys won't or don't read. However, in the last three years, participating in this scheme has encouraged the depth and breadth and range of texts our students are discussing and reading. These books really open up conversations.'

Celia Duncan, Head of Literacy, Christian Brother's School, Co. Tyrone



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