

## School Membership to Listening Books

**An easy-to-use, simple way of enhancing your digital school library with hundreds of great curriculum and fiction titles to support your SEND pupils, and those with mental health conditions such as anxiety or depression.**

Listening Books is a UK charity offering thousands of fantastic audiobooks for school pupils who have an illness, disability, learning difficulty or mental health condition which affects their ability to read print books.

The classroom can sometimes be a frustrating environment for pupils that cannot hold a book or read print. Difficulty with reading can affect language and communication skills, increase anxiety and depression, and lead to feelings of isolation in class.



Audiobooks are an exciting, **inclusive way to learn**, allowing children to concentrate on the book's content, rather than the process of reading. Listening to audiobooks can also

**increase literacy and communication skills.** They allow students to keep up with the books their peers are reading and can help **encourage reading for pleasure.** At Listening Books, we believe strongly that all children and young adults should be able to access books, and through our audiobook collection offer a wide range of books for both leisure and learning. We record many titles for education in our own recording studios with professional actors. These titles not only support the English curriculum, but many other subjects such as History, Science, Maths, Geography, Drama and PHSE.

### Benefits of Using Audiobooks at home or at school

There are many benefits to using audiobooks, both at home or in the classroom. Listening to audiobooks eliminates the struggle some may have 'decoding' the words on the page, allowing the listener to visualise as they listen. Their understanding is

also helped by the tone of voice, accent, emphasis and timing given to the text by the professional reader.

Many children can miss out on vital language resources and their written output can fail to reflect their ability. Listening to books in audio form can help them acquire not only a whole new range of experience, but a vocabulary beyond their own reading level and everyday conversation, **enhancing fluency and comprehension**. Their horizons expand, they absorb the structure and conventions of storytelling and develop much greater confidence to communicate both orally and on paper, which has enormous benefits to their writing. When they discover the excitement of books through listening, pupils want to read more rather than less. If they follow the text while listening, their word recognition and reading speed improve.

“I wanted to give you some feedback as to how your charity has helped my son. He had struggled with all his schoolwork, despite trying his best, throughout his childhood and he was eventually diagnosed in his teens with dyslexia. The educational therapist who assessed him recommended the Listening Books charity. I felt he had nothing to lose, his first choice was a book from one of his favourite films “The Lord of The Rings”, which he persevered with. I persuaded him to try the Harry Potter books. Initially he was reluctant, but the books grew on him until the point that he could not wait for the narrator Stephen Fry and was reading ahead of himself independently. This was a turning point for him, and his schoolwork began to improve significantly. He passed most of his GCSE’s (apart from German), gained 3 A levels and has a BSc degree (2:1) from Loughborough University. He is now an avid reader. I want to thank everyone who is part of this charity as your efforts have played a part in helping my son to turn his life around. Thank you.”

**Parent of Member of Listening Books**

Our audiobook collection supports the Curriculum, covering subjects including Geography, Science, Citizenship and History, as well as titles that support mental health such as Looking After Your Mental Health by Alice James and Louie Stowell, recorded inhouse in our state-of-the-art studios as part of our Sound Learning programme.

Through Sound Learning, we are able to record a wide range of educational titles that are unavailable in the audiobook format, which means you will find titles in our collection that are unavailable anywhere else.

## **The Service We Offer**

Our audiobooks can be borrowed online and either streamed live or downloaded to a portable player. There are no late fees and books will automatically return themselves at the end of the lending period, unless you choose to return a title early.

We add new titles every month and our friendly library team are on hand to help with any questions Monday-Friday 9am – 5pm.

As a charity, we are able to offer low-cost memberships:

### **£50 per year gives you:**

**5** downloads or streams at any one time, with a maximum of 25 per week, allowing you to download or stream up to **1300** audiobooks across the year

### **£100 per year gives you:**

**10** downloads or streams at any one time, with a maximum of 50 per week, allowing you to download or stream up to **2600** titles across the year

If you need more checkouts at one time to meet your school's requirements, please contact our membership support team on 0207 234 0522 or email [support@listening-books.org.uk](mailto:support@listening-books.org.uk)

## **Ways to join**

- Visit <https://www.listening-books.org.uk/join> to complete our online form.
- Complete and return the attached application form either via email to [support@listening-books.org.uk](mailto:support@listening-books.org.uk) or by post to Listening Books, 12 Lant Street, London SE1 1QH.
- Call 020 7407 9417 to join over the phone (Office Hours Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm)
- Email [info@listening-books.org.uk](mailto:info@listening-books.org.uk).
- Payment can be made via PayPal, Visa or MasterCard, cheque, bank transfer or by requesting an invoice.



**LISTENING BOOKS**

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