

Launch Press Release

The Social Book Club is a brand-new subscription service which will host a library of around 200 original stories - including some from authors as young as 9 years old, aimed at educating children of primary school age about issues facing them in the modern world.



Every month they will release books on timely social topics, ranging from health and wellbeing and coronavirus to racism and adoption, giving children thought-provoking stories to inspire conversation and to open their minds.

These are anxious times for all of us and children need all of the support we can provide just now. They work closely with groups of parents to identify current topics causing most concern; those openly discussed, as well as those explored online, through peer group messaging, or via older siblings. This steer informs their authors and ensures that their library remains totally relevant

Waitrose & Partners is supporting the launch of this service by helping to develop a number of books around healthy eating. Dr Emma Williams, Nutrition Manager at Waitrose, supported with six new books for the site which are based on the government's Eatwell Guide recommendations.

One book, Sammy the Strawberry, is based around fruit and vegetables waiting to be picked out from the shelf of a supermarket - with them all bragging over what amazing powers they can confer on their human recipients.

Dr Williams says her hope is that these books “will help instil healthy habits which will turn children into healthy adults, lower the risk of diet-related illnesses and help them have a healthy relationship towards food.”

Waitrose customers will be introduced to The Social Book Club through their weekly 'Waitrose Weekend' magazine. Paper copies are available in all Waitrose stores and digitally [here](#).

Waitrose and John Lewis Partners will receive a special joining discount on their benefit scheme and schools with a Waitrose in their area will have the opportunity to be nominated by their Member of Parliament for a free annual membership.

For schools, The Social Book Club complements PSHE and social learning worldwide.

'The Social Book Club is an invaluable resource for children, especially at this challenging time. This vibrant library inspires curiosity and openness through a vast selection of original stories. It gives children the opportunity to address a wide variety of topical issues such as bullying and racism as well as promoting creativity and both physical and mental wellbeing.'

'The strength of The Social Book Club is its ability to remain agile and responsive to new and existing features of contemporary life. Its inception as an online platform means it can be shared with children at any time, in any place, to help clarify their understanding and development of a world which focuses upon positivity, and the best elements of humanity within a local and global context.'

Am Rai, Headteacher of Montpelier School, Director of The National Teaching School at the West London Teaching Alliance and National Leader of Education

'We read Life After Lockdown and as a class we absolutely loved it'

Hati Errol, Year 4 Achievement Leader & PSHE Leader, Churchfield Primary School.

For use at home, children can continue to learn and allow parents to engage in the learning with unlimited access for just £7.99 a month.

The Social Book Club – the online library where you don't have to be quiet!

Here you can read, learn and find out about the world around you, from the comfort of your own home or classroom.

For any Press/PR questions, please email tamsin@thesocialbookclub.com

