

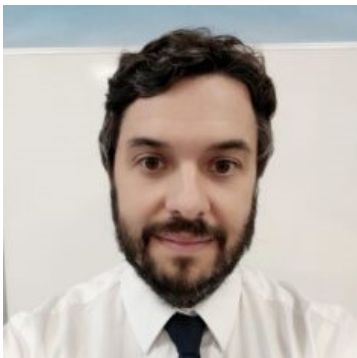
# Love to Read



## Welcome!

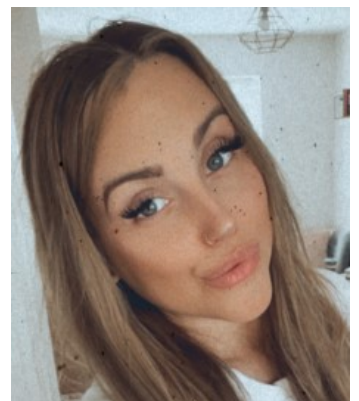
We're approaching the end of our co-design phase of Love to Read (time is flying). This month, you'll get to meet the rest of the co-design team and find out about a research paper designed especially for children.

## Chris Youles



**Chris Youles** spent most of his childhood with his nose buried in a book: traversing Mount Doom, escaping to treasure islands and visiting Magic Faraway Trees. Now his bedside table has a 'to read pile' that is so high it is in danger of needing planning permission. Chris is currently reading 'The Haunting of Hill House' by Shirley Jackson and being too afraid to turn the lights off. Chris is an Assistant Head Teacher, English Lead and Specialist Leader of Education, focusing on writing

## Emily Weston



**Emily Weston** has always loved reading, ever since she could pick up a book! As a child, she loved reading Dragonsbane and Harry Potter, but would read anything she could get her hands on. Now, she loves all genres but particularly enjoys YA stories with strong, diverse female voices. With 8 years teaching experience, predominantly in Year 6 but also within Year 7, too, she has had a passion for creating excitement for children and reading for pleasure. Having previously been Reading Lead, she now leads Community and Transition. Alongside teaching, she reviews books ([www.theteacherbookworm.com](http://www.theteacherbookworm.com)) and writes for websites and magazines including HWRK Magazine and TES. Last year, she completed a scholarship at the University of Oxford about books and their positive impact on SMSC within classrooms, which stemmed from a passion for using books to promote emotional literacy and empathy in school.



## Katie Jukes



**Katie Jukes** was the epitome of a reluctant reader as a child, having dyslexia meant that learning to read and learning to love reading was an obstacle that took many years to overcome. Through persistence and the wonderful world of audiobooks, Katie went from reading the Argos catalogue to falling in love with literature. She relaxes by reading about Just William's raucous escapades, the refined lives of the Austen character and Agatha Christie's ingenious plot twists. Katie now works as a primary school teacher in a school in central London. She is also currently undertaking a part-time Master's in Educational Leadership.

## Research paper for children!

Interested in teaching children or young people about the power of books? This new article, led by PhD researcher Charlotte Webber, and co-authored with Love to Read members Sarah McGeown and Katherine Wilkinson, draws upon research from psychology and neuroscience to explain how books can help us to understand ourselves, and others, better. You can access it here:

<https://kids.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/frym.2022.658925>

## Recorded talk on Love to Read

Earlier this month Love to Read team member Sarah McGeown gave a talk about Love to Read, the principles underpinning the Love to Read programme, and research into children's reading motivation and engagement. You can access it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wosFUiGD3yI>

All the best,  
The Love to Read team  
Twitter: @\_Love\_to\_read.

Sarah McGeown (PI), Emily Oxley (Postdoctoral Researcher), Jessie Ricketts (Co-I), Laura Shapiro (Co-I), Christina Clark (National Literacy Trust), Megan Dixon, Helen Fairlie (Education Scotland), Katrina Lucas and Katherine Wilkinson (Scottish Book Trust).  
Co-design team: Katie Jukes, Carol Ann Neil, Claire Sleath, Chereen Rain, Emily Weston, Chris Youles.

