

For release - 6th December 2018

CLPE Secure Funding for Second Reflecting Realities Report

The Centre for Literacy in Primary Education are now taking submissions from publishers for their second Survey of Ethnic Representation in Children's Literature report, after securing two more years of funding from Arts Council England. The aim of the report is to evaluate ethnic representation in children's publishing in the UK, determining to what extent Black, Asian or minority ethnic (BAME) characters are represented.

The 2018 report found that out of 9115 children's books submitted for the survey, only 4% featured BAME characters, and in only 1% of cases was the main character from a BAME background. Only one of the books submitted was defined as a comedy, with 10% of the books containing a BAME character focused on social justice issues. The 2018 report can be found in full [here](#).

Farrah Serroukh, Learning Programmes Leader at the CLPE, who is managing the survey said:

"The findings of the first survey were received with such tremendous and far-reaching interest, affirming our sense that this work is much needed, valued and appreciated by all producers and consumers of literature alike. The publishers' support was, and continues to be, integral to this as we begin the process of the 2019 survey which we hope will continue to give us all insight into representation in children's literature and help us all to identify key learnings, trends and areas of focus in the future."

Sarah Crown, Director of Literature at Arts Council England added:

"We are delighted to support the continuation of this timely and important work by the CLPE to probe the inclusion and representation of diverse characters in children's books. We will be interested to see if, over time, the situation presented in the 2017 survey improves, what trends may emerge, or what other action may be needed by the sector to make the changes that are so clearly needed: to ensure that every child is inspired to develop their sense of self, empathy for others, and to explore the world around them through fiction."

The closing date for submissions in this cycle will be the **25th of January 2019** with the report scheduled to be published in July 2019. Publishers are also able to receive a report or attend a presentation on their individual statistics from the CLPE.

For further information about this important project, please contact Farrah Serroukh (farrah@clpe.org.uk) or Catherine Alport (hello@catherinealportpr.co.uk)

Notes for Editors:

Key Reflecting Realities 2019 Dates:

- 6th December 2018 - submissions open
- 25th of January 2019 – submissions deadline
- July 2019 – report publishes

About The Centre for Literacy in Primary Education:

The Centre for Literacy in Primary Education (CLPE) is an independent UK charity dedicated to raising the literacy achievement of children by putting quality children's literature at the heart of all learning. It is a charity with a national and international reputation for excellent literacy training and resources. Visit www.clpe.org.uk for further information.