

# Year 5/6 pupils – Create your own fictional world and it's hero!

Date of course	Times	Venue	Cost	Max. places	Subject
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2026	9.30am-3.30pm	Braeside Education Centre	£60	16	Literacy AGAT

## Course details

Come along on an exciting journey of world and character building. Discover your inner author as you fire up your imagination to create your very own fictional environment and your main character who will live there. You'll start with some fun exercises to get your creative juices flowing. We'll take a look at what inspires and interests you in world-building – using the outside area as well as your imaginations. Then we'll look at what makes an exciting main character and how they interact with their world to create a dramatic story. You'll get immersed in the key elements of world-building and characterisation including:

- **Setting and world-building**

You'll create your own individual map of a fictional world where a story can take place. We'll think about its landscape – it might be another planet or just another street. Then we'll work out the details of its setting, from weather to homes and infrastructure to the environment, and its society, from its laws and technology to its problems.

- **Characters**

Next, you'll design a dynamic character and explore the role they play in your world and their journey through it, from their home and family and friends to their motivation and dramatic arc

- **Story narrative**

Finally, we'll look at how world-building and character interweave to create the building blocks for an exciting story of your own.

You'll be able to find out more about my own writing journey and what's inspired my stories through interactive tasks that will help you develop your own fictional worlds, characters and stories.

## Guidance criteria for identifying participants:

- Attendees should
- Pupils should be creative and imaginative.
- Pupils should enjoy collaborating with others.
- Pupils should demonstrate attention to detail and good decision-making skills.

## Course tutor

**Alex Cotter** is a children's author, editor, and a Lecturer in Creative Writing for Young People. Alex currently writes children's books for 8-12 years old under the name Alex Cotter. Her recent novel, [The House on the Edge](#), was selected as a WHSmith Travel Book of the Month and chosen for the 'Read for Empathy' collection. In addition, she has written YA novels and was nominated for the CILIP Carnegie Medal 2016. Along with a degree in English Literature, Alex has over ten years' experience as an editor and mentor for other writers. She has lots of experience of running a range of talks and workshops suitable for KS2 & KS3. Most importantly, she is a passionate advocate of inspiring young writers to develop their individual creative talent and to spread the many joys of storytelling.

## As a result of attending the course you will have:

- You'll have created all the elements for your own fictional world including a storyboard, setting map and character profile.
- You will also have some fresh and exciting ideas for a story.

## Students should bring:

- Pencil case
- Notebook
- Water bottle
- Clothing suitable for being outdoors at breaktimes

**Lunch & refreshments are provided. School uniform is not required. No mobile phones.**