

Lauren Child

the new

Children's Laureate

2017-2019



Lauren Child MBE (born 1965) is an English writer and illustrator.

With a unique ability to see the world through a child's eyes, the aptly named author and illustrator Lauren Child is one of the most influential and innovative writers of her generation. Her creations include Charlie and Lola, Clarice Bean and Ruby Redfort books for older readers.

The Children's Laureate role is intended to "promote and encourage children's interest in books, reading and writing".

The author said she wanted to use the position to "shine a light on children's books and illustration", which she said is always seen as "a poor relation" to adult literature.

She also voiced concerns about library closures.

"There are many children who don't have access to books and they don't have access to books in their schools because a lot of schools don't have libraries," she said and "If we value literacy as much as we say we do and as much as we should, then children need that opportunity. So I worry about the haves and have-nots and giving children the opportunity to try things out."



