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Meet Our Authors: Charlie Higson

Charlie Higson Authors Live Event

How to View and FAQs

Thursday 7th October 2010, 11am

Author of the phenomenally successful *Young Bond* series, Charlie Higson reads from his books and talks about his inspirations. The novels concentrate on Bond's school days at Eton. Charlie is also a celebrated writer of screenplays and adult thriller novels, as well as a performer and co-creator of the popular BBC comedy series *The Fast Show*.

How to watch the live event – very important information!

- You will be able to view the event at: www.bbc.co.uk/authorslive . Make sure you click on Charlie's photo to access the live stream!

Test you can receive the live broadcast before the event:

- A test stream will be broadcast from www.bbc.co.uk/authorslive from 10.45am on Thursday 29th September, and will stay up on site until Charlie's event.
- Also if you follow links from www.bbc.co.uk/authorslive to the Learning Zone you will find archive video clips to play which will allow you to test your equipment.

Test your school's/organisation's internet connection

You can test the speed of your school's/organisation's bandwidth at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/diagnostics> this will give you an indication of whether you will be able to receive the event on 7th October. Even if only the slowest speed gets a tick you will be OK as the BBC's webstream will be in two different qualities to take account of slower connection speeds.

On the day of the event:

- On the day of the event live streaming will start 15 minutes before the start of the event to enable you to have time to adjust sound/speakers etc without missing any of Charlie's event. Please ensure you tune in by 10.45am.
- **BUFFERING:** During the actual broadcast the screen may freeze occasionally with a note that it is 'buffering'. This is perfectly normal during a live internet



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broadcast. Don't try to adjust anything - please just be patient and wait for the broadcast to continue.

Viewing the event after the live broadcast

- You will be able to watch the on-demand file after the live broadcast at <http://www.scottishbooktrust.com/meet-our-authors/childrens-authors-live> or at www.bbc.co.uk/authorslive

FAQs

What time does the event start?

The event starts promptly at 11am on Thursday 7th October 2010. Please log in by 10.45 to give time to adjust speakers etc. before the event starts.

How long does the event last?

The event lasts 40 minutes.

I can't get the link to work

Please check with technical staff in your school – it may be the website is blocked and you need to ask them to unblock it (they may need to pass this request on to your local authority).

I can access the link but couldn't view the test event

It may be that the school's internet connection isn't fast enough to receive the live feed. To test your connection speed, go to <http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/diagnostics>. If it says it is sufficient then you should be able to receive the broadcast (even if only the slowest speed gets a tick you will be OK as the BBC's webstream will be in two different qualities to take account of slower connection speeds). If it still doesn't work please consult technical staff in your school. It may be that you need to request computer use in the rest of the school is kept to a minimum during the live broadcasts.

I have been trying to register our school for the free Charlie Higson event on 7th October, but have been unable to make the link work. What can I do about this?

If you cannot access the registration application you can call Scottish Book Trust on 0131 524 0160 and ask to speak to a member of the children's team – they will register your group.



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Where will the event be shown?

The event will be broadcast on www.bbc.co.uk/authorslive. A test stream will be broadcast from 10.45am on 29th September 2010 from the same web address, and will remain up until Charlie's event is broadcast.

What bandwidth do we need in order to view the events?

You can check your system to see if you have suitable bandwidth to view the event at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/diagnostics>. If it says it is sufficient then you should be able to receive the broadcast (even if only the slowest speed gets a tick you will be OK as the BBC's webstream will be in two different qualities to take account of slower connection speeds). If it still doesn't work please consult technical staff in your school. It may be that you need to request computer use in the rest of the school is kept to a minimum during the live broadcasts.

Can we ask Charlie Higson questions?

You can go to www.bbc.co.uk/authorslive to submit a question. Please bear in mind that many thousands of children will be watching and will have submitted questions. Please don't be too disappointed if your question doesn't get asked.

Can we watch it at a later date?

Yes, you will be able to watch the on-demand file after the live broadcast at <http://www.scottishbooktrust.com/meet-our-authors/childrens-authors-live> or at www.bbc.co.uk/authorslive

Will our school firewalls block the website where the event will be broadcast?

You can check by visiting the link www.bbc.co.uk/authorslive – if you can see this site then it shouldn't be blocked. Also if you follow links to the Learning Zone on this site you will find archive video clips to play which will allow you to test your equipment. If you can't view this site, please check with technical staff in your school – it may be the website is blocked and you need to ask them to unblock it (they may need to pass this request on to your local authority).

Will the broadcast also be available on GLOW?

More details to follow.