

BETH COX

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in /bethcinclusion

SELECTED CLIENTS



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Royal Society Young People's Book Prize

All Bodies Are Wonderful one of six titles shortlisted in 2024. Translated into 8 languages.

Little Rebels Award

Ossiri and the Bala Mengro (Traveller Tales series) shortlisted 2017. Conceived, commissioned and edited by Beth.

Reflecting Disability

Joint Lead on groundbreaking Arts Council England-funded project to analyse disabled representation in UK children's books.

Inclusive Minds

Co-founded 2013. Drove change and pioneered authenticity advocacy in UK children's publishing.

Inclusion Incubator Programme

Delivered to Oxford University Press, Usborne, Cambridge University Press and Bloomsbury. Graduates report measurable changes to live projects.

CREATIVE EDITOR & INCLUSION SPECIALIST CHILDREN'S PUBLISHING

The best books come from seeing what others don't, whether that's the gap in the market, the angle that makes a concept distinctive, or the question that needs asking before a project goes too far in the wrong direction. With over 20 years of originating and developing children's books across picture books, illustrated non-fiction, novelty formats and games, I've developed the editorial instinct to spot those things quickly and act on them. Add to that a deep understanding of how to make inclusion work commercially while keeping the heart of the work intact, and I bring a genuinely distinctive blend of creativity and strategy.

CORE SKILLS

Originating ideas that become series Identifying concepts that make series distinctive, developing a scalable format, and seeing it through to publication. All Bodies Are Wonderful, shortlisted for the Royal Society Young People's Book Prize and the Level Headers series, with 12,000+ copies sold are examples of this in practice.

Managing projects and creative partnerships from concept to publication Working across departments and alongside creatives and industry partners, I've managed a wide range of formats, as well as large-scale industry projects. I'm experienced in mentoring less experienced colleagues and supporting them to develop their editorial practice.

Contributing to list strategy and long-term publishing direction Thinking across content, design, accessibility and format from the commissioning stage, considering how novelty elements can be integrated seamlessly and affordably, and how inclusion and accessibility can be embedded from the start rather than addressed later in the process.

Managing a complex workload across multiple clients and projects Running a consultancy across a client base spanning the Big Five, independents, education and ELT means regularly switching contexts, delegating effectively, managing budgets and deadlines, and adapting quickly to very different ways of working, often simultaneously.

Making inclusion an embedded part of the editorial process Working directly on manuscripts, illustration briefs and series concepts to ensure inclusion is considered from the commissioning stage, producing books that are more authentic, more commercially resilient and more likely to reach the widest possible readership.

EXPERIENCE



EDITORIAL INCLUSION CONSULANT SELF-EMPLOYED

Beth Cox Inclusion Consultancy Ltd | Sept 2011 to present

- Conceived and edited the Traveller Tales series (Child's Play), collaborating with Romani storyteller Richard O'Neill across six books to develop oral stories into picture books, briefing illustrators, shaping each title from concept to print.
- Researched and developed the Look Touch Learn series (Child's Play) in partnership with Sussex Baby Lab. Evidence-based novelty board books where interactive elements were grounded in infant development research. Oppenheim Toy Portfolio Gold Seal; Carnegie Libraries Best Books for Babies.
- Consulted on development of inclusive versions of popular games for Laurence King and Kaddo, ensuring authentic and representative character selection.
- Ran a pop-up book clinic at London Book Fair 2026, working with publishers on early-stage ideas to identify inclusion opportunities and creative possibilities in real time.
- Developed and delivered the Inclusion Incubator to 150+ publishing professionals, producing measurable shifts in how teams approach inclusion on live projects.
- Lead teams of associates to deliver DEI audits and inclusion reads across trade and educational lists, providing solutions-focused feedback at scale.
- Titles consulted on featured on CBeebies Bedtime Stories, BookTrust Best Books and Read for Empathy lists.

INDUSTRY PRESENCE

- Moderator, 'Making Inclusion Sustainable' Children's Media Conference, 2026
- Organiser/Host, Inclusion & Accessibility Hub, London Book Fair, 2026
- Speaker/Panelist, Bookseller Children's Conference 2014, 2019, 2023, 2025
- Speaker/Panellist, London Book Fair, 2013, 2015, 2019, 2024
- Speaker, Flanders Literature Belgium, 2018
- Organiser/Facilitator, A Place at the Table, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2020
- Speaker, IBBY Congress Mexico, 2014
- Sky News interview, 2014
- Articles published in trade press

AUTHOR



b small publishing

All Bodies Are Wonderful

- Royal Society Young People's Book Prize shortlist 2024

Level Headers series (4 titles)

- Self-esteem and confidence, ages 8–10
- 12,000+ copies sold

Both sold into multiple languages and territories

ACADEMIC



Oxford Brookes University
Publishing MA

- Associate Lecturer and Tutor, 2014–2021 Wrote D&I unit for Children's Module Distance Learning programme

EDUCATION

BA (QTS) Teaching Studies with English Literature

University of Surrey, Roehampton
1997–2001

TEACHING CAREER

1:1 Teaching Assistant (SEN)

2011–2013

Year 2 Teacher, Vietnam & UK

2001–2003

EXPERIENCE CONT...



JOINT LEAD & FACILITATOR ACE-FUNDED PROJECT

Reflecting Disability Oct 2023 to present

- Co-leading the first project to analyse representation of disabled people across UK children's books.
- Convening a steering group of disabled people and developing a comprehensive evaluation framework
- Managing a team of 20 reviewers across 400+ submissions from 90+ publishers.



AUTHOR | EDITOR COMMISSIONED PROJECTS

b small publishing Aug 2019 - Sept 24

- Conceived, researched and wrote *All Bodies Are Wonderful*. a science-first approach to body diversity. One of six titles shortlisted for the Royal Society Young People's Book Prize 2024; translated into 8 languages; structure replicated in subsequent title.
- Commissioned to develop and write the Level Headers activity book series (self-esteem and confidence, ages 8–10); success of first two titles led to two further commissions. 12,000+ copies sold across the UK series, sold into 10 languages and editions across multiple territories.



CO-FOUNDER | MANAGER COMMISSIONED PROJECTS

Inclusive Minds Jan 2013 - Feb 2020

- Co-founded Inclusive Minds in 2013, the organisation that reshaped how UK children's publishing thinks about authentic representation, building the authenticity advocates network that connected young people with lived experience directly with publishers and book creators.
- Planned and delivered four 'A Place at the Table' industry events, bringing together publishers, authors, illustrators and people with lived experience to identify barriers and find solutions.



FREELANCE EDITORIAL MANAGER CONTRACT

Just Content Ltd Feb - Nov 2019

- Contracted to lead the Reception phase of the Power Maths mastery programme (having previously worked on KS1 elements for Pearson). Commissioned and managed writers and editors across pupil books and teacher guides, maintaining brand and content consistency while managing schedules and budgets.



FREELANCE PUBLISHER CONTRACT

Pearson Education Mar - Nov 2017

- Contracted to commission and manage writers and editors on a key element of the KS1 Power Maths mastery programme, ensuring products met DfE and NCETM guidelines and supporting official recognition and school match-funding eligibility.



EDITOR & EDUCATION LIAISON EMPLOYED

Child's Play (International) Ltd Sept 2003 - April 2011

- Broad early career experience across editorial, design, sales and education at a child-centred independent, providing a strong grounding in how books are made and sold across every stage of the process.
- Led the expansion of the Baby Signing list, developing new series concepts and adapting content for the US and Australian markets.
- Managed backlist development projects including creating bespoke titles for Bookstart gifting packs and developing new series by reimagining existing artwork in fresh formats with new text.
- Sat on the steering group for Scope's In the Picture project, a three-year National Lottery-funded initiative, subsequently championing greater inclusion across all titles and writing the first comprehensive inclusion guidelines for illustrators.