

UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
Children's Writer in Residence – reviewed Conditions of Award
March 2026

Purpose

This position has been created to foster New Zealand children's literature by providing a full-time opportunity for a writer to work in a College of Education environment.

Conditions of Appointment

The writer will take up the appointment for the first semester of the year for a period of 14 weeks, aligned with the University of Otago College of Education teaching semester.

The writer will be required to reside in Dunedin or its environs during the period of the term of appointment.

The writer will not be a member of any department of the University of Otago College Of Education but will be provided with an office and will have access to various facilities, e.g. computer, telephone, photocopying, library.

The writer will undertake a new project during the residency.

The writer will not be required to undertake any teaching during the term of the appointment, but will be expected to make an appropriate contribution to the academic and cultural life of the University of Otago College of Education. This might take the form of the writer making themselves available to discuss their work, and/or depending on writer's experience, conducting a seminar or workshop during the residency.

The total package for the residency includes a stipend based on the Lecturer 1 rate for 14 weeks, minus the value of the Robert Lord Writers Cottage valued at \$5,500 for Semester 1, paid for by the University of Otago. Payment will be made by fortnightly instalments over the period of the residency.

The resident will also be offered furnished accommodation, including wireless broadband internet access, at the Robert Lord Writers Cottage for the period of the residency. The cottage is comfortable but small, and can accommodate two people and an occasional guest but is not suitable for families. Writers who take up the offer of accommodation will be required to sign a separate agreement with the Robert Lord Writers Cottage Trust and to meet the costs of power at the cottage. If the accommodation offer is not taken up, there will be no reimbursement.

Costs of removal to Dunedin will be met by the writer.

During the period of the residency the writer may accept invitations to visit and conduct workshops in schools in Otago to promote their work or to workshop new material. Travel costs may be met by the College, with prior approval from the Dean, dependent upon budget

restrictions. Costs of travel and accommodation for one visit to the Southland Campus may be applied for. The writer will not be paid any additional fee by the College for such visits. The writer may not charge the schools for these visits.

If the writer wishes to undertake visits to schools managed by other organisations during the period of the residency, for example as part of the Read NZ Te Pou Muramura Writers in Schools scheme, costs will be addressed by a separate contract with the organisation in question, and no costs incurred will be met by the College.

The Ōtepoti UNESCO City of Literature team will welcome the resident, if desired, with an introduction to the programme and to some remarkable local organisations and writers and will offer ongoing connection with literary activity in the city during the residency.

On completion of the appointment, the writer will be expected to provide a one-page report for the University of Otago College of Education and other relevant partners and supporters, detailing the work undertaken, the value of the residency, and their intentions for the work.

The writer agrees to acknowledge the “University of Otago College of Education Children’s Writer in Residence”, and the Robert Lord Writers Cottage Trust, where applicable, in any published work which eventuates from the residency.