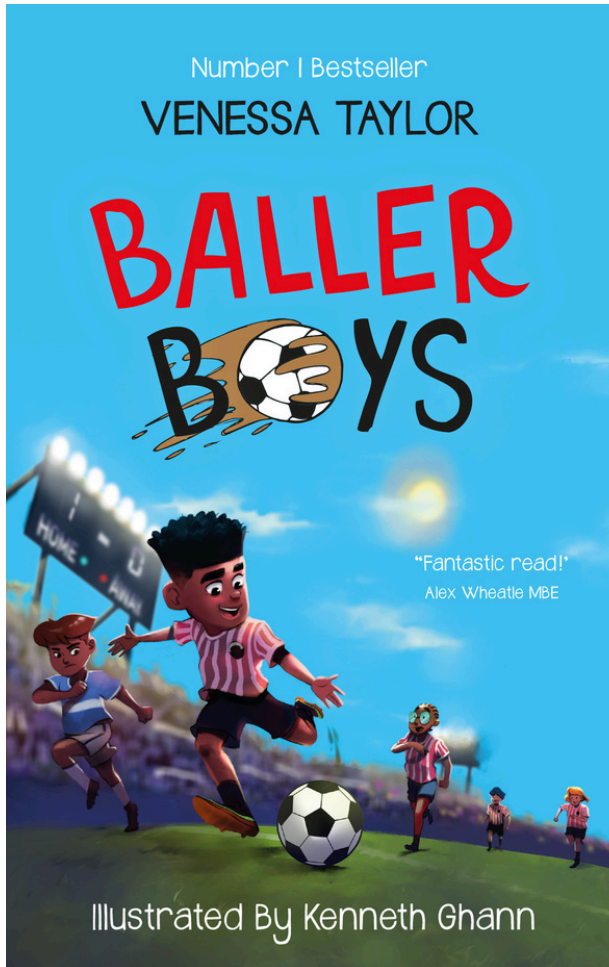


ADVANCE INFORMATION MEDIA SHEET

BALLER BOYS (2ND EDITION)

By Venessa Taylor

Genres: **Fiction, Children's** | Publication date: **July 10 2025** | Availability: **International, PB** | ISBN: **9781913835231** | Publisher: **Hashtag Press** | Price: **PB £6.99** | Page count: **176** | Author online: **ballerboysbooks.com**



THIS FAB NEW 2ND EDITION OF BOOK ONE BOASTS A VIBRANT NEW COVER TO COMPLEMENT THE SECOND BOOK IN THE BALLER BOYS SERIES (BALLER BOYS VS THE BULLDOZERS) PLUS UNIQUE BONUS CONTENT INCLUDING:

- Author's Note
- Reviews/Praise Page
- Four indoor football drills to try at home
- Baller Boys Quiz – discover if you're the ultimate Baller Boys super fan!

Shay and Frankie are best friends and football crazy! They eat, sleep and breathe football (even when they're at school!). They dream about playing football, love a kick-about in the park, watch all the big games on TV... all that's missing in their lives is the chance to play for a real football team. All Cultures United is the best club around for miles and all the footie fans want to on their team... including Shay and Frankie.

Are they good enough to impress Coach Reece at the AC United trials? Can their friendship survive the competitiveness of football? Will they ultimately fulfil their goal to become Baller Boys?

"Fantastic read" – Alex Wheatle MBE

Number 1 bestseller Amazon Sports Fiction for young people * Winner of the People's Book Prize 2021 'Best Children's Book.' * Shortlisted for The Diverse Book Awards 2021 * Amazon Teachers' Pick 2021



Venessa Taylor brings over 20 years of experience as an inner-city primary school teacher and assistant headteacher to her role as the author of the Baller Boys series — inclusive, football-themed stories created to engage reluctant readers, especially boys. Born and raised in London, Venessa has long championed literacy and diversity in education, raising reading attainment through culturally relevant content that reflects the communities she serves.

Inspired by the boys she taught and the grandchildren she continues to read with, Venessa wrote Baller Boys just before lockdown to reflect the richness of football culture, community life, and family dynamics. There are now two Baller Boys books available from Hashtag Press: this second edition of Baller Boys plus Baller Boys vs The Bulldozers.

Venessa's stories honour her late son-in-law, Coach Reece Darcheville, and were developed with input from her daughter Shenna and young readers themselves — creating a series that is both authentic and empowering.

Venessa lives in Essex and is an active ambassador for leukaemia and cancer charities. Diagnosed with leukaemia in 2016 and now in remission, she continues to write, speak, and inspire through her creative work and advocacy.

Sales enquiries to MMS: info@mms-publishing.com