



CALL FOR CONTRIBUTORS

FOSAC 2025 FESTIVAL MAGAZINE



For the past 4 years, the Nottingham Festival of Science and Curiosity has produced a festival magazine, designed to creatively engaged children aged 9-11 with the world of science.

Initially launched for the 2021 festival to engage families unable to access online activities, the magazine is now a key part of the festival programme, allowing us to reach into the homes of families across Nottinghamshire.

You can download previous magazines from www.nottsfosac.co.uk

Each February, we produce 12,000 magazines and distribute them through schools, community groups and partner venues, as well as making it available online via our website. Last year, the magazine was distributed through 73 locations across Nottinghamshire via schools, libraries and community groups. A significant number of schools receiving magazines were in the lowest 3 deciles of the 2019 Indices of Multiple Deprivation and many report higher than the national average of pupils receiving Free School Meals.

The festival magazine provides an opportunity for children to take part in experiments and activities at home and helps us to spread the word about the festival. The magazines contains articles, puzzles, quizzes, experiments and lots of creative ways for children to have their curiosity stimulated.

The magazine is produced using content created by local researchers, and is compiled, designed and illustrated by graphic design students from Confetti Institute of Creative Technologies. We also work with year 7 pupils from The Wells Academy to copy-edit articles, give feedback and ensure the content and language is right for the target audience.



Confetti students with their magazines

Our deadline for content is 4 October 2024.

For more information and to discuss ideas, please contact us at festivalmagazine@ignitefutures.org.uk

More information:
@NottsFOSAC
www.nottsfosac.co.uk



CALL FOR CONTRIBUTORS

FOSAC 2025 FESTIVAL MAGAZINE

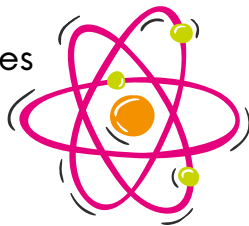


Tips

Our target audience for the 2025 Festival magazine is children aged 9-11 (ie. school years 4-6). We want the magazine to be relevant, accessible and interesting for this age group, so have compiled the following guidance for content.

What we're looking for:

- Puzzles, quizzes and brainteasers
- Experiments and activities children can do at home
- Wacky ideas that will catch children's attention ie. 'Did you know...'
- Content that children may already be familiar with - but give them more depth and detail
- Creative visuals eg. colouring in
- Simple articles with clear takeaway messaging
- Catchy and engaging titles



What we're not looking for:

- Lengthy articles - short simple explanations about your research work best. Keep it under 250 words.
- Information pages with mainly links to other websites - everything they need should be on the page
- Activities that need lots of equipment - how can you adapt it to be done in the home?
- Word searchers - we have plenty of these already!
- Avoid using jargon and language which may not be accessible

Some useful links:

- [Simple Writer software](#) for checking complexity of text
- [Guidance from Frontiers for Young Minds Journal](#) for writing for a young audience
- [Online readability tool](#) for terminology
- [National Curriculum Science Programmes of Study](#) (or look up equivalent in your area of research) for reference what children learn in school at this age
- [National Geographic Kids](#) for ideas of format
- Test out your content on children you know!

