



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE FESTIVAL^{of} SCIENCE & CURIOSITY

Engaging with local businesses and
industry in February 2026



A community festival taking science out of the lab and into our everyday lives. The festival is about celebrating curiosity, asking questions and taking a leading role in finding out the answers.

Festival Principles



The Festival of Science and Curiosity is based on the principle that science is inherently creative and has to be part of our cultural lives, not remote, exclusive or only conducted behind closed doors.

The Festival works with local communities, especially in areas of disadvantage or deprivation, so people of all ages and backgrounds can participate, interact and have interesting conversations about the questions they are curious about.

The Festival finds innovative ways to provide young people with that first spark of interest where science, technology, engineering and maths could be part of their future.

The Festival is a programme from Nottingham-based education charity Ignite!.



Festival Aims & Objectives



- Increase engagement of new audiences across Nottinghamshire with science and curiosity through positive experiences.
- Change perceptions and improve awareness of how science and curiosity are part of and impact on our everyday lives.
- Stimulate and nurture curiosity, creativity and innovation.
- Develop a creative, collaborative culture of engagement that facilitates dialogue between scientists, researchers, experts, educators and civil society.



The Festival Format



The Festival takes place over two weeks each February and comprises a programme designed to engage all audiences. The festival comprises:

- A schools programme featuring in-school workshops, off-site visits, virtual meetings with researchers and a science fair
- A festival magazine featuring articles, puzzles and activities written by local researchers and edited and graphic designed by young people
- A programme of drop-in events and workshops in communities across Nottinghamshire during half-term holiday

The next Festival will take place 9 - 20 February 2026.

More information about the Festival at www.nottsfosac.co.uk or @NottsFOSAC



2025 Headlines



2025 Highlights



- We celebrated our **10th anniversary** - watch our [10th birthday celebration animation](#)
- We held three **Real Science in Schools Symposia**, one in Mansfield and two in Nottingham, including one especially for special schools
- We funded three local organisations to run their own events targeted at disabled, black and marginalised communities through our **Community Grants programme**
- We supported a local graphic design student to produce a 40-page **magazine** featuring articles and activities from local scientists, and distributed it through schools and libraries across the county
- We delivered a wide range of events, with our smallest workshops engaging just 10 people and our largest engaging over 1300 people



Looking to 2026 and beyond



As we look to the future, we aim to continue to increase the reach and impact the festival has within all our communities across our city and county. Priority areas we are focusing on to achieve this include:

- Maximising equality, diversity and inclusion in everything we do
- Deepening our impact in all of our communities
- Increasing our visibility, profile and reputation across the city and county
- Expanding connectivity between local businesses and their communities
- Ensuring long-term festival sustainability from mixed and diverse sources of funds

We will be working closely with partners to build these areas into our work as we continue to deliver a wide range of programmes for the 2026 festival.



Industry as Partners



We continue to value the amazing support provided by partners for the Nottinghamshire Festival of Science and Curiosity, which enables us to have such a positive impact across the county.

To enable us to sustain and grow the festival we're seeking financial contributions to allow us to support a small staff team to create innovative programmes, develop community relationships and reach new audiences. We could not do this without you!

For 2026 we are offering three levels of partnership with different benefits for our partners..

We are also able to discuss bespoke packages based on your organisational needs.

2026 Partnership Options



	Silver (£3000)	Gold (£5000)	Platinum (£10000)
Include your logo on the Festival website	Yes	Yes	Yes
Include your logo on relevant promotional material	Yes	Yes	Yes
Approval to use the FOSAC logo	Yes	Yes	Yes
Create relevant social media posts	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ticket(s) for festival launch event	x1	x2	x4
Support to design/deliver festival activities *	1 activity	3 activities	4 activities
Include your logo on the printed programme		Yes	Yes
Include your logo on the Festival video		Yes	Yes
Display at festival launch event			Yes
Presentation at festival launch event			Yes
Placement of promotional material and/or in person contributions at high impact festival events			Yes
In-person visit from key members of the festival/trustee team to present to your organisation			Yes

* examples of community-based events include a school event, a public event, an article for the festival magazine



Testimonials



"The Festival of Science and Curiosity was a fantastic event and a really rewarding experience to be a part of. Through working with the festival, we were able to attend several primary schools and library locations, which was an opening to meet groups from across the community, building relationships and share the opportunities available at Rolls-Royce Submarines Ltd."

- Bev Swindles, Rolls Royce



Get in touch



We would like to thank you for taking the time to read about the Festival.

For more, information, please contact Ignite!'s Programmes Manager, Megan Shore at megan@ignitefutures.org.uk

