



# Media Release

## Stirling Science Festival to Return for Second Year

Stirling Science Festival is returning for a second year to offer a wide range of fun family activities during the October school holidays.

Sponsored by CityFibre and the Scottish Government, it will take place between 14-16 October. Stirling Science Festival will host a variety of free interactive activities and exhibitions aimed at inspiring an interest in science in young people where they can either watch in wonder at the scientific displays or conduct their own experiments at home.

The festival will offer a hybrid programme of online and live events at the Albert Halls and Tolbooth through partnership between Stirling Council, Forth Valley College, University of Stirling, Codebase and Historic Environment Scotland.

Among the exhibitions to take place, Forth Valley College will present a workshop on clean water where kids can become chemists, testing pH levels to see if samples of water can support life. They'll also be shown how a full cup of water can be turned upside down without spilling a .drop

Community Planning and Regeneration Committee Convenor, Councillor Chris Kane said: "I'm incredibly pleased that the Stirling Science Festival is returning this year and will be able to offer .live, in-person activities as part of a hybrid programme

The activities available are an excellent chance for free family fun over the October holidays " that can help inspire a love of science in young minds and how they view the world which we live in. As parts of the programme remain online, the Stirling Science Festival can be enjoyed ".wherever you are and whatever the weather

Paul Wakefield, CityFibre's City Manager for Stirling, added: "It's a real pleasure to team up with our partner, Stirling Council on such an important initiative for the local community. Having constructed our future-proof Full Fibre network across the city last year, enabling it to become an economic and cultural powerhouse, Stirling really is at the forefront of innovation. Stirling was our first completed Gigabit City in the UK, meaning fast and reliable digital connectivity for thousands of premises and so we are committed to Stirling reaping the benefits. Inspiring and equipping the younger generation is very much a part of that and I have no doubt that the ".Festival will be a huge success

Stirling Council Libraries will also be involved with books on science, technology, engineering and maths available along with fantastic story books to inspire children to explore ways of helping to save the planet and tackle real-world environmental issues, from plastic pollution to wildlife decline.

Interactive writing and poetry workshops for all ages will also be held online with sessions from .award winning children's author Emily Illett and Stirling Makar, Laura Fyfe

Numbers may be subject to social distancing restrictions and all in-person activities will be held in accordance with current Scottish Government health guidelines.

Vice Convenor, Councillor Scott Farmer said: "This year's Stirling Science Festival looks set to be even better than last year thanks to the addition of in-person events to the hybrid programme .which will allow families to take part in free and fun activities this October

The exhibitions, online workshops and takeaway activities all encourage young people to "interrogate their surroundings and consider the impact science has on their lives. Hopefully the ".Stirling Science Festival plays its part in inspiring our future scientists and engineers

The full programme of events can be seen at [www.stirlingsciencefestival.org](http://www.stirlingsciencefestival.org).