

UNI VERS ALLY MANCHESTER FESTIVAL

13 JUNE 2026
OXFORD ROAD

MAP & GUIDE



MANCHESTER
1824

The University of Manchester

universallymanchester.com

WELCOME

The University of Manchester welcomes you to the Universally Manchester Festival – a community day for all!

13 JUNE

The festival offers a programme of free, family-friendly activities. Get hands-on with science and creative sessions, heritage tours, inspiring talks and performances – there's something for everyone.

Together we'll explore what makes for a **greener, healthier** and **fairer** world for all.

Activities are taking place **11am – 4:30pm** and most are available for you to drop in at any time.

We hope you have a fun and enjoyable day.

THE FESTIVAL IS FREE AND OPEN TO ALL

HIGHLIGHTS

BEE CURIOUS

One of the festival's highlights is the **Bee Curious** programme, featuring thought-provoking talks and performances for all ages.

11:00am – Light, lungs and air: making the invisible, visible, Ryan Devlin explores the invisible world that is the very air we breathe.

12:00pm – Can you spot a liar: the psychology of deception and 'The Traitors', Doron Cohen and Stacey McKnight ask why are we so bad at spotting liars and why do some people seem more trustworthy than others?

1:00pm – Jumping into action: how can we save the world's frogs? Bethany Dean and Finn Baverstock show us how frogs play an important role in the world around us.



2:00pm – Chasing Asteroids, Sarah Crowther uncovers the asteroid Bennu's remarkable 4.5-billion-year story.

3:00pm – Schools Poetry Competition: Globally Curious: Voices from the Earth, featuring fantastic verse read by a bright young generation of new writers.

4:00pm – Drumming with Afrocats, musician Godfrey Pambalipe leads a fun and rhythmic drumming session. No experience needed – just bring your enthusiasm and have a go!

DISCOVER, LEARN, AND PLAY

With more than **90 interactive stalls** explore topics from atoms to art, music to medicine, and poetry to planets.

University Place: Take a journey through the body and explore what makes us human. Image the brain in action, uncover the hidden world of microbes, discover the role of artificial intelligence in medical breakthroughs.



Nancy Rothwell: Explore the past, present and future of science and engineering. Step into virtual reality worlds, experience the wonder of space, investigate materials that are unimaginably small.

Alliance Manchester Business School: Find out how creativity and sustainability come together. Create future worlds in Minecraft, make sounds, rhythm, and music, learn the art of calligraphy.

Chemistry Building: 4-5pm, ticketed. Be amazed by the visually exciting **flash bang show**. Expect fantastic colour changes, wow moments and the occasional bang.

HIGHLIGHTS

CELEBRATING OUR VIBRANT CULTURAL VENUES

Highlights in the Whitworth: Take part in an interactive drumming session with Afrocats musician Godfrey Pambalipe. Join us as the gallery transforms into a hands-on play space for the under 5's, get crafty with ARTivists, our Age Friendly volunteers to make paper flowers and masks. Meet artist in residence Sally Hirst, from Venture Arts, for a relaxed and cosy sensory story. Create your own artworks inspired by our galleries and collections in artist-led workshops with Whitworth Young Contemporaries, Creative Flex - Afrocats, and the Muslim Artists Academy.

Highlights in Manchester Museum: Explore a lively mix of creative and hands-on activities, from a language trail through the galleries to porcelain pattern design, South Asia-inspired

foil embossing and discovering ancient animals in fossils. Share your Manchester stories with 'Things That Go On Things' and help imagine a fun public sculpture trail inspired by museum objects, and enjoy more activities inspired by the museum's collections.

Historic campus tours: Step back in time on a **guided walking tour** starting under the arches of the Old Quad (Whitworth Building). At 11am, hear about the fight for women's equal participation in education. At 12.30pm and 2pm, discover how radical ideas and pioneering individuals led to groundbreaking discoveries that shape everyday life.

Sporting challenges: Get moving in our outdoor sporting challenges, with a range of fun activities designed to get you active and involved. Test your penalty shootout skills and have a go on our giant inflatable dartboard, Suitable for all abilities.

Learn here now – Universally Manchester Festival Learning Trail: Learning happens everywhere - in daily routines, small discoveries, and shared moments. Check out our festival learning trail and



share your own learning moments and stories as you interact with festival activities, people, and places.

Growing a greener future: Pop along to our **university community allotment** a partnership between the University and Ardwick Climate Action and get hands-on with sustainability and planting with sunflowers. The allotment is located outdoors behind the Kilburn Building.

Find our **face painters** across various venues!

For more information and FAQs visit our website universallymanchester.com





Manchester Piccadilly Station
0.7 miles

Oxford Road Station
0.6 miles

St Peter's Square
0.9 miles

Bee Curious: Inspiring and thought-provoking talks and performances.

Bridgeford Street comes to life with a host of interactive pop-up stands including:

- People, plants and planet
- Bloom and bash
- Science busking
- Pop-up food vendors.

KEY

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|-----------------------|------------------|
| Welcome Desk | Zebra crossing |
| Bee Curious | Parking |
| Historic campus tours | Bus stop |
| Food outlets | Baby changing |
| Picnic zone | First aid |
| Café | Multifaith space |
| Water point | Toilets |

FOOD & DRINK

Food outlets can be found around University Green along with a Co-op supermarket.

Cafés can be found in the Alliance Manchester Business School, Nancy Rothwell, Manchester Museum or the Whitworth.

Some **pop-ups** can be found in Bridgeford Street.

Find **outdoor picnic zones** in University Green, Brunswick Park and Whitworth Park and **indoor picnic zones** in the Alliance Manchester Business School and Manchester Museum.

FURTHER INFO

Need help during you visit? Please look out for our **Festival Ambassadors** – you can spot them by their yellow or purple t-shirts.

Toilets are available in all major venues, including accessible and gender-neutral facilities. **Baby changing** facilities are in Manchester Museum and the Whitworth.

Welcome Desks can be found in University Place, Nancy Rothwell Building and Alliance Manchester Business School.

Multi-faith spaces can be found in Nancy Rothwell Building and Manchester Museum.

Quiet spaces can be found in Manchester Museum. Support for **vulnerable people and lost people** can be found at Welcome Desks.

For **first aid** assistance, ask a Festival Ambassador; go to a Welcome Desk; or go to the main reception desk in Manchester Museum.

You may be **photographed or filmed** and by attending the festival, you consent to materials being used for University publicity, through whatever media, worldwide. If you do not wish to consent, please speak to the people filming or taking the photograph.