



# Glasgow Science Festival in Action 2026

## Public Engagement & Events Training

### Introduction

Join Dr Deborah McNeill, Director of the Glasgow Science Festival (GSF) and the GSF team for an exciting opportunity to collaborate, create and deliver highly engaging STEM activities for young people. PGR students from the Colleges of Science & Engineering (CoSE) and Medical, Veterinary & Life Sciences (MVLS) are invited to join our extended training scheme, taking place online and in-person throughout spring and summer 2026. There will be a combination of taught sessions and small group work, focusing on content development. Followed by a process of review and refinement, you will then deliver your groups activities at an event during GSF 2026, which runs from the 4<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> June.

Throughout the course you will develop useful skills such as:

- Effective group working
- Understanding your audience
- Development and delivery of high-quality STEM engagement content
- Creation of supporting materials
- Project and budget planning

### Timetable

The programme is a series of taught components either in person at the UofG Gilmorehill campus, online via Teams and self-led group work. Some sessions are timetabled and some you will schedule to suit your group. Due to the nature of the training, learning is progressive and builds directly on previous sessions. **As such, to sign up for the course you must be able to attend ALL sessions on Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> and Fri 6<sup>th</sup> March as well as the delivery session in June. Every year someone asks if they can miss some of these sessions. You cannot.**

Joining Info	
<b>Project Leads</b>	Dr Deborah McNeill, Director, Glasgow Science Festival & Kerry O'Neil, MVLS Engagement Officer
<b>Training venue</b>	Online- Microsoft Teams and in-person at the Clarice Pears Bld or GSF offices, No 2 Professor Square
<b>Participants</b>	This project is funded by the University of Glasgow CoSE & MVLS Graduate schools and as such is only open to PGR students from those colleges. With thanks to our funders for supporting this project.
<b>Application process</b>	This is a competitive programme, with spaces limited to 16 PGR students from CoSE and 16 from MVLS. Prospective participants are invited to apply by completing our online form.
<b>Application form</b>	<a href="#">GSF in Action Application Form 2026</a>
<b>Application deadline</b>	Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb, 2026
<b>Application response</b>	We will confirm if you have a place on the course by Thurs 19th Feb
<b>Any questions</b>	Contact Kerry O'Neil on <a href="mailto:kerry.oneil@glasgow.ac.uk">kerry.oneil@glasgow.ac.uk</a>

## Timetable Info

Date	Session	Time	Session Type	Session Title
Thurs 5th March	1	10.00-10.45	Class - in person, Clarice Pears Building Rm163	Intro to PE
	2	11.00-12.00	Class - in person, Clarice Pears Building Rm163	Creating tabletop activities
	3	13:00-15:30	Class - in person, Clarice Pears Building Rm163	Activity development
	4	15:30-16:00	Class - in person, Clarice Pears Building Rm163	Team roles
Fri 6th March	5	10.00-10:30	Class - in person, Clarice Pears Building Rm163	Creating tabletop activities- part 2
	6	10:45-16.00	Class - in person, Clarice Pears Building Rm163	Activity development- part 2 & Next Steps
<b>Deadline 1 - Wed 11th March, 5pm - submit activity worksheet 1st draft, activity title &amp; website blurb</b>				
Wed 18th March	7	60mins per group	Group- Online, Teams	Progress review with GSF Team
<b>Deadline 2 - Wed 1st April, 5pm - submit activity worksheet 2nd draft, 1st draft shopping list &amp; supplementary materials</b>				
Tues 14th April	8	90mins per group	Group- in person, GSF Office	Play session (testing activities) & pack GSF materials
<b>Deadline 3 - Fri 17th April, 5pm - submit final activity materials and final shopping list</b>				
Tues 12th May	9	10.00-13.00	Class - in person, Clarice Pears Building Rm163	Finalise materials & Practice Delivery session
Tues 9th or Wed 10th June	10	10:00-16.00	Group- in person, Glasgow Botanic Gds	Delivery at Glasgow Science Festival

**Sessions 1-6:** Days 1 & 2 are compulsory sessions that ALL participants must attend. Both days are delivered in person at the Clarice Pears Bld. You will learn how to develop an effective engagement activity, be allocated a group and theme then begin development of your activities.

**After session 6:** You will work in your small groups and will require some working outside the timetabled sessions, timings and workloads tbc within your groups.

**Session 7:** Progress review with GSF Team on materials submitted following deadline 1.

**Session 8:** Play session in-person at the University of Glasgow. Chance to test your activities and get feedback.

**Session 9:** A chance to finalise your materials, practice and feedback session in-person at the Clarice Pears Bld. Groups will present final activities to each other.

**Session 10:** Delivery of your activity at the festival. As part of your application, you will be asked to select one of the optional delivery days during GSF in June. Please note your availability will be used to determine your group and cannot be changed.

Throughout the programme there are several deadlines where groups submit the outlined material for review. This will involve working with your group outside of the scheduled course sessions. The deadlines are highlighted in green.