



TECHFEST

Promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

Scottish Charity No SC010349

2026 ACTIVITY WEEKEND PROGRAMME

Saturday 30 May – Sunday 31 May

Robert Gordon University, Garthdee Campus, AB10 7GJ

ADURA



JOINT PRINCIPAL SPONSORS



WWW.TECHFEST.ORG.UK

Scottish Charity No. SC010349

WELCOME TO TECHFEST ACTIVITY WEEKEND 2026

As Joint Principal Sponsors of TechFest 2026, bp and Adura are delighted to pledge our support to Aberdeen and the North-East of Scotland's premier annual festival of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM). TechFest aims to build young people's knowledge of these key subjects and inspire them to become the next generation of engineers, scientists, technologists and mathematicians.

This year, TechFest has developed a diverse and entertaining programme to complement the classroom work delivered through the Curriculum for Excellence and we are confident that the young people will find the festival experience both educational and fun.

We look forward to another successful event which we hope will encourage pupils to consider studying these important subjects from an early age.

Doris Reiter
Senior Vice President
bp North Sea



Neil McCulloch
CEO
Adura

ADURA

TECHFEST

Aberdeen and North-East Scotland's
Festival of Science, Technology,
Engineering & Mathematics

ADURA



HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Venue Opening Times

The Sir Ian Wood Building, Robert Gordon University, Garthdee Campus, Aberdeen AB10 7GJ
Saturday 30th May & Sunday 31st May 2026, 09.30 – 16.00 each day

Admission Costs

With over 20 hands-on workshops, shows and demonstrations, the TechFest Activity Weekend continues to provide fun, exciting and inspiring activities for all ages.

No need to pre-book as this year's prices are £3 each, under 3's go free.

We accept cash or card

Picnics and Packed Lunches

Although there are catering providers on site please feel free to bring your own food and soft drinks.

Buggies and Pushchairs

We have provided a Buggy Park at the Activity Weekend. Please be aware that it is not staffed and items are left at the owner's risk.

Baby Change Area

There will be a baby change area provided at the Activity Weekend.

First Aid



If you require First Aid Treatment – please visit Reception

Quiet Space /Time

If you feel that you would prefer to attend TechFest when it is quieter then please be aware that Saturday mornings tend to be less busy than later on in the day or on Sunday. Quiet spaces will be available at all times for anyone who needs time out. Just ask a member of staff and they will point them out.'


AT A GLANCE



energy & technology

STEM Engineering with robots
Energising the Transition
Smart Home Solutions
Generative Artificial Skills in Schools (GenAISiS project)
How Turbines Make Electricity


other activities

The Wonderful Rainforest
K'Nex Engineering
Snap Circuits and K'Nex Engineering
 Escape Room
Going on a Plant Munch
Chemical Engineering Design
Light up your world
Challenge your Senses
Electronics and Snap Circuits
Discovering the Coast

biology / medical

Clinical Skills at Foresterhill with Teddy Bears Hospital and AUPS
BodyVision Exhibits
From Cells to Celebration: 10 years of Biomedical Science Day

space

The TechFest Dome 
Science of Flight
Racing Rockets

maths

Maths Week Scotland
Wild About Maths
Maths Around the World

shows

Disgusting Digestion
Try this at home - maybe...

under 5s

ToddleFest
K'Nex Dinosaurs


BOOK
ON THE DAY!



ENERGY & TECHNOLOGY

STEM ENGINEERING WITH ROBOTS



A Robotics workshop using Lego elements which emphasizes STEM engineering principles through playful, hands-on exploration. Participants don't just build models—they learn how mechanical design, structural integrity, coding and basic systems engineering come together in practice.

PRESENTED BY: JOHN MCGILL OF COMPUTERXPLORES

SPONSORED BY: bp

GENERATIVE ARTIFICIAL SKILLS IN SCHOOLS (GENAISIS PROJECT)



The Generative Artificial Intelligence Skills in Schools (GenAISiS) project aims to foster critical conversations with young people around using generative AI effectively, safely, ethically, and creatively. Led by researchers from Robert Gordon University's (RGU) School of Law and Social Sciences and School of Computing, Engineering & Technology, and supported by CILIP and school librarians, the project co-created innovative educational cartoon video stories with pupils and a toolkit that complemented the videos with lesson plans, discussion prompts, and curated resources on GenAI use, transparency, trust, bias, inclusion and privacy. The workshop will focus on what AI is and how it works, recognising bias, stereotypes, and misinformation and thinking critically about the impact of AI on society.

PRESENTED BY: Presented by Robert Gordon University's (RGU) School of Law and Social Sciences and School of Computing, Engineering & Technology

ENERGISING THE TRANSITION

Look around you. Are the lights on? Is your computer running? Or the TV playing? All of these things require energy! We use energy every day to power our world.

Come and delve into the exciting future of energy and take part in hands-on, interactive experiments to learn about different energy sources, and the trade-offs associated with each, it explains the fundamentals of wind energy and introduces the concept that energy cannot be created or destroyed, only changed from one form to another. Which energy source will you choose to power your future?

PRESENTED BY: TechFest

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SMART HOME SOLUTIONS



Join the TL Tech team to learn about the different ways that smart home technologies and voice assistants can help in our everyday lives and how they can support people with disabilities or people who are elderly.

PRESENTED BY: TL Tech

HOW TURBINES MAKE ELECTRICITY

Try this wind turbine experiment which uses an electric fan to spin the blades on the turbine model, causing energy to be produced which is measured on a digital Multimeter. Experiment how the angle of the turbine blades determines the speed of the rotation.

PRESENTED BY: Thistle Wind Partners



UNDER 5s

TODDLIFEST

When they're little, playing is just another way of learning. Let your under 5's discover the fun of playing in our soft play area, an ideal place for TechFest's youngest visitors.



K'NEX DINOSAURS

An introduction to the fascinating world of engineering design. Kid K'NEX allows younger children to develop their construction skills and build up their creative confidence by producing their own unique model Dinosaur.

PRESENTED BY: TechFest

MATHS

MATHS WEEK SCOTLAND



Maths Week Scotland (19 September – 27 September 2026)

Join TechFest as we celebrate the upcoming Maths Week Scotland by exploring a series of interactive puzzles and challenges. Visit Maths Week Scotland at www.mathsweek.scot or follow us @mathsweekscot on X

WILD ABOUT MATHS

Take a walk on the wild side with TechFest as you undertake puzzles, challenges and problem solving activities inspired by the natural world. In these hands-on maths activities you can work through a series of puzzles designed to challenge your idea of how much fun maths can be.

PRESENTED BY: TechFest



MATHS AROUND THE WORLD

A fun, hands-on maths workshop designed to challenge and build confidence. A variety of puzzles, representing different countries, are set out. Help and encouragement is at hand and solutions checked.

PRESENTED BY: TechFest



SHOWS

DISGUSTING DIGESTION



Follow your food's journey through the amazing body. Find out where and how food travels through the body and the importance of diet and making healthy choices

PRESENTED BY: Glasgow Science Centre



TRY THIS AT HOME - MAYBE...

Birthdays, luck, gas, balloons, whips, jaggy nails and eggs! - what a mixture!

PRESENTED BY: Jon Davies



BIOLOGY / MEDICAL

CLINICAL SKILLS AT FORESTERHILL WITH TEDDY BEARS HOSPITAL AND AUPS



Don't forget to bring your own teddy!!

Come along and join the Medical School Clinical Skills Teaching Team and find out how we train healthcare professionals of the future using the latest state of the art technology with our family of Human Patient Simulators and 360 degree cameras.

As always for our younger clinical skills trainees don't forget to bring your teddy bear or soft toy to the Teddy Bear's Hospital for a check-up. You can even watch and assist the doctors in the operating theatre as they help a teddy bear get better.

PRESENTED BY: SUPPORTED AND PRESENTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN – MEDICAL SCHOOL CLINICAL SKILLS CENTRE AND TEDDY BEAR HOSPITAL



BODYVISION EXHIBITS

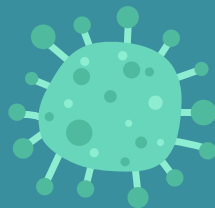
Participants will get hands-on with a range of engaging anatomy-themed exhibits. They will address topics like cardiovascular fitness, body composition and the effects of lifestyle choices like smoking

PRESENTED BY:
GLASGOW SCIENCE CENTRE



FROM CELLS TO CELEBRATION: 10 YEARS OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE DAY

Discover the hidden heroes of healthcare and come learn about Biomedical Science from Robert Gordon University's (RGU) School of Pharmacy, Applied Sciences and Public Health (SPASPH), in partnership with the Institute of Biomedical Science (IBMS). From blood to microbes, tissue to DNA, let's demystify the remarkable role Biomedical Scientist's play in Healthcare and help us celebrate 10 years of Biomedical Science Day!



SPACE

THE TECHFEST DOME **BOOK ON THE DAY!**

Enjoy a visit to the unique environment of the TechFest Dome. Find out why we have day and night; wonder at a sky full of stars and discover the constellations.

Not suitable for under 5 years.

PRESENTED BY: TechFest



SCIENCE OF FLIGHT

Learn about the science of flight and the concepts of thrust and drag, lift and gravity as we lift up, up and away in this interactive activity.

PRESENTED BY: TechFest



RACING ROCKETS

The sky's the limit when you put your imagination to the test to design a space rocket that is out of this world, think about rocket design to build a rocket that will travel as high as possible. Learn about the science of flight and the concepts of thrust and drag, lift and gravity as we lift up, up and away!

PRESENTED BY: TechFest



ACTIVITY WEEKEND FEEDBACK FORM





OTHER ACTIVITIES

SNAP CIRCUITS AND K'NEX ENGINEERING

A selection of hands-on activities including Snap Circuits and K'nex.

See if you can build an electronic circuit or tackle an engineering challenge. Investigate problems associated with the construction of buildings. Can you build higher, bigger, stronger?

PRESENTED BY: **ADURA**

GOING ON A PLANT MUNCH

Plants are an important part of our diet. Although we eat a wide range of plants, we don't eat every part of every plant, come and explore the parts and types of plants we do eat and where they come from.



PRESENTED BY: TechFest

K'NEX ENGINEERING

Shine a light of creativity to tackle an engineering challenge. Investigate problems associated with the construction of buildings. Work together and use your engineering skills to develop a prototype. Can you build higher, bigger, stronger?

PRESENTED BY: TechFest



THE WONDERFUL RAINFOREST

Rainforests only cover 2 percent of our earth's surface, yet house over 50 percent of all living creatures and plant life on our planet.



Using real life animal demonstrations, we will travel to different countries meeting some amazing animals that live in rainforests around the world. Get up close to real rainforest animals in this workshop. You'll learn what makes our rainforests so important, not only to our planet, but to the animals who call the rainforest home.

PRESENTED BY: The Critter Keeper

ESCAPE ROOM



PRESENTED BY: University of Aberdeen

UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN

An infectious disease is spreading rapidly. The public health laboratory responsible for outbreak control has been hit by a cyber-attack. Critical systems are compromised, and the Outbreak Prevention Protocol — the key framework for understanding immune responses and developing vaccines — is currently offline.

Before scientists can create a vaccine or implement public health strategies, the laboratory must first re-establish how the human immune system responds to infection. Without this understanding, any interventions might be ineffective or unsafe.

Your team has been tasked with recovering the missing protocols. To do so, you'll need to reconstruct vital immunological processes, starting with the body's natural response to infection.

Your initial goal is to restore the immune response timeline. This will help the lab understand how the body initially fights infection and how it later adapts to recognise and respond to the same pathogen again.

Each challenge you complete will restore a part of the Outbreak Prevention Protocol. Once all parts are recovered, the protocol can be reactivated, enabling vaccine development and outbreak management.

Will you be able to crack the codes to save the world?

Timed workshop 45 mins
Age 11+ parents to accompany
Limited to 6 players at a time

OTHER ACTIVITIES

ELECTRONICS AND SNAP CIRCUITS

With a range of hands-on activities, including make your own LED light sword, snap circuits, and robots.

PRESENTED BY: Dundee Science Centre



CHEMICAL ENGINEERING DESIGN | ChemE

Join the IChemE team to construct and test your own mechanical valve. Learn about the chemical engineering design that goes into controlling the flow in a pipe and why valves are important.

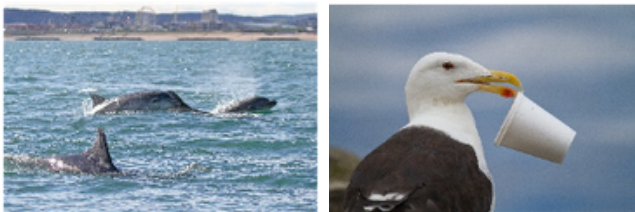
PRESENTED BY: the Institution of Chemical Engineers (IChemE)



DISCOVERING THE COAST



A look at the East Grampian Coast, its wildlife and the threats that they are facing including marine litter and plastics.



PRESENTED BY: East Grampian Coastal Partnership



ACTIVITY WEEKEND FEEDBACK FORM



LIGHT UP YOUR WORLD

'Light Up Your World!' invites audiences to have fun with hands-on activities as they explore the nature of light and its impact on our daily lives, learn about sunlight and day length, weather, global warming and energy generation and explore the role of light in quantum physics, astrophysics, communication and health care.

PRESENTED BY: TechFest and supported by the Institute of Physics



CHALLENGE YOUR SENSES



Challenge your senses with the Duthie Park Ranger Service! Try to spot hidden animals in their natural environment, use your sense of touch to identify hidden items, and test your sense of smell to match scents with pictures. If you're feeling crafty, you can even create and colour your own musical shaker to take home with you!

PRESENTED BY: Duthie Park Rangers





The CREST Awards scheme is the British Science Associations flagship programme for young people, providing science enrichment activities to inspire and engage 5 – 19 year olds.

CREST Awards are now free in Scotland. Please use the code
T22echFest56
to order your certificates at no cost, which also supports TechFest.

It is the only nationally recognised accreditation scheme for project work in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subjects.

In addition to giving young people the opportunity to undertake hands-on science, CREST Awards are designed to help develop skills that are transferrable to other subjects, further education and future employment.

To find out more about CREST Awards and to see how you can get involved visit the TechFest website: www.techfestsetpoint.org.uk/crest or email: kirstycranna@techfest.org.uk

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Scottish Charity No. SC010349

TechFest is your Regional CREST Support Organisation for Scotland..

TechFest.org.uk

To find out more information about CREST and how to register for awards follow the link below:

www.crestawards.org

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

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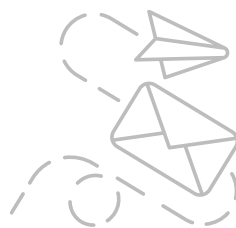
THANK YOU



TO ALL OF OUR CONTRIBUTORS WHO HELPED MAKE THE FAMILY ACTIVITY WEEKEND POSSIBLE

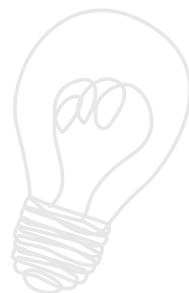


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