



Easy Read Guide to Bluecoat

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What is the British Science Festival?

🌟 A free festival with events all about science

🗺️ It takes place in a different city each year. This year it's in Liverpool.

📅 The festival is from Wednesday 10 to Sunday 14 September.

📍 Events happen in 14 places across Liverpool, including Bluecoat.

👥 Events are for people aged 16 and older.

👋 Friendly staff will be there to help you.

Tickets



All events are free.

🎫 Some events need a ticket – you can book these online (see “How to Book” later). These are called bookable events.

🎈 Some events don't need tickets – just turn up. These are called drop-in events.

❗ If an event is sold out, you can still come along. If people don't show up, we may have space for you. We'll do our best to let you in.

About Bluecoat

 Bluecoat is a building in the centre of Liverpool.

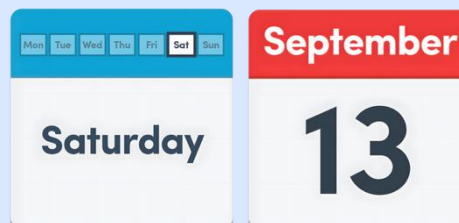
 It has art, performances, and events.

 There will be events at Bluecoats on:

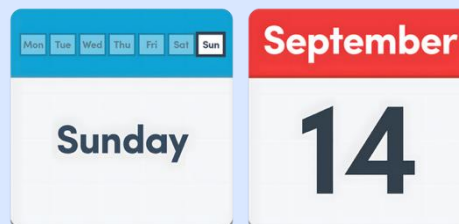
- **Wednesday 10 September**



- **Saturday 13 September**



- **Sunday 14 September**



How to get there

Bluecoat address: *8 School Lane, Liverpool, L1 3BX*

 It is very near Liverpool ONE shopping centre.

 Look for the big gates – that's the entrance!



What's it like there?

 Bluecoat is **wheelchair accessible**

↑ There is a **lift** to all floors

 There are **accessible toilets**

 **Assistance dogs** are welcome

 A **quiet space** is available if you need a break on Wednesday.

 Friendly **festival assistants** will be around to help you

 We will have **ear defenders** and **fidget toys** you can borrow.

 There are **induction loops** in the café and performance area

 Some events may be **busy or noisy**. Ask if you're not sure what to expect.

Food and drink

☕ Bluecoat has a café.

🍰 You can buy drinks, lunch, and cakes.

🌿 You can also sit in the garden to eat or drink



Ground Floor Café

Quiet spaces

Wednesday

📖 **The Library** will be a quiet space.

It is on the first floor.

Saturday

🏠 There is a **Courtyard** outside the building that is a quiet space.

☔ It is outside. If it rains, you might get wet.

🚶 The nearest indoor quiet room is at **The Black-E**.

The Black-E is a 15-minute walk away, at: 1 Great George Street.

Sunday

🍽️ **The Bistro** will be a quiet space.

It is on the first floor.

There are no activities planned in that area.

Event Spaces

There are 5 different spaces in Bluecoat where events happen.

Outside

Courtyard 🏠

This is the paved area in front of the building where walking tours start.

Garden 🌳

A garden with benches, plants, and flowers where you can sit and relax.



Garden

Ground Floor

The ground floor has a café and entrances to the courtyard and garden.

Garden Room 🚪

A small room on the ground floor where many workshops take place.



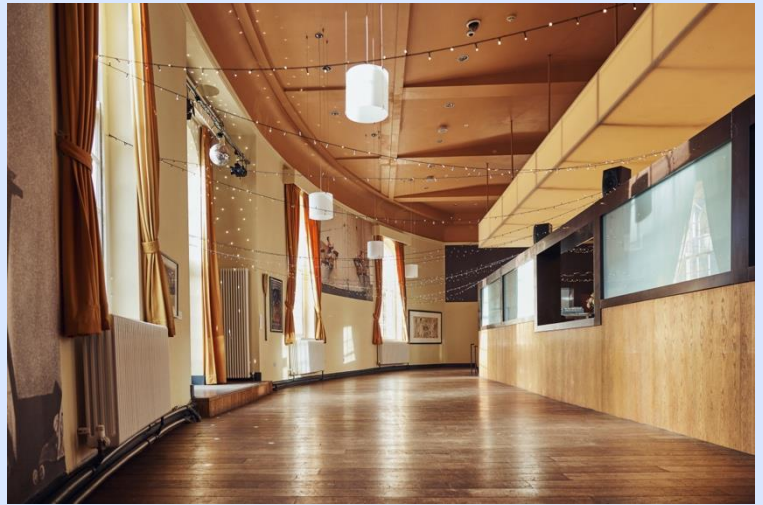
Garden Room

First Floor

You can use the stairs or the lift to get to the first floor.

Bistro 🍷

An open space where many activities happen.



Bistro

Performance Space 🎭

A large room. Sometimes it has rows of chairs like a theatre for talks and shows. Other times, the chairs are taken away so you can walk around and explore.



Performance Space

Library 📖

A small room with books and tables. It will be used as a quiet space.

Top Tips

🕒 Arrive early so you don't feel rushed

🎫 Bring your ticket or booking email (if it's a ticketed event)

🎧 Bring anything that helps you feel comfortable (snacks, headphones, stim toys)

😊 Don't worry – it's a friendly space!

📖 Some events may use complicated words. If something is unclear, please ask, and we'll be happy to explain!

If you need help

👋 Look for festival assistants in **pink t-shirts** – they will help you

👤 You can bring a support person or carer

✉ Reach out before the festival - email us at:
Festival@britishscienceassociation.org



Symbols Key

Type of Event

 = Performance

 = Art or Exhibition

 = Workshop

 = Talk or Discussion

 = Activity

 = Location

Do I need a ticket?

 = Ticket needed!

 = Drop-in event

Sensory Information

 = May be loud

 = Quieter event

 = Low lighting

 = Movement



What's On – Wednesday 10 September

If you're viewing this on an electronic device, click the event title to book your ticket or learn more on our website!

Wired differently: Step inside the neurodivergent brain



12:00pm – 3:00pm

The Bistro

Drop-in

Activities



Explore how people who think differently experience the world. Try games and activities to see how different people's brains work.

May be busy and interactive

Prescribed cannabis: Patient stories



12:00pm – 1:00pm

Garden Room

Ticket needed

Talk



Hear real stories from people who take cannabis as medicine. Learn what it's like and how it helps them feel better.

Calm, quiet event

Tracking Liverpool's wild side



12:00pm – 5:00pm

 General Bluecoat

 Drop-in

 Activity

Use fun tools to explore nature in Liverpool. Look for animals and plants near the building.

 May involve some moving around



Embracing autistic joy



12:00pm – 1:00pm

 Performance Space

 Ticket needed

 Talk

Learn about how joy can feel different for everyone and what makes autistic people happy.

 Calm, quiet event



Craft activity: Embracing autistic joy



1:00pm – 2:00pm

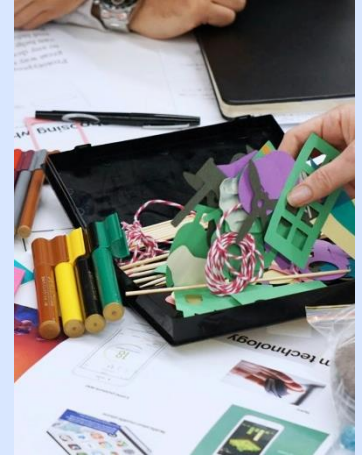
 The Bistro

 Drop-in

 Art Activity

Make your own creative artwork about joy and happiness in autism.

 May be busy or messy



Deepfakes, identity, and bioethics



1:30pm – 2:30pm

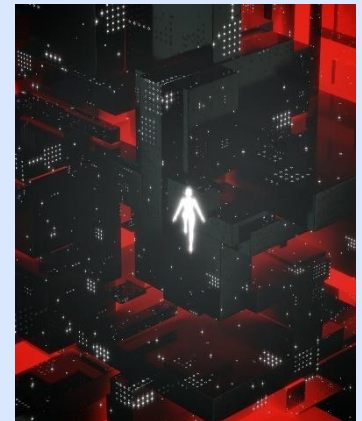
 Performance Space

 Ticket needed

 Talk

Learn how fake videos and new technology can change the way we see ourselves and others.

 Calm, quiet event



Moving minds: The power of dance in therapy



2:00pm – 3:00pm

 Garden Room

 Ticket needed

 Talk and  Activity

Learn how dance can help people feel better and move more easily and join in for some relaxed dancing!

 Some movement, but gentle. Wheelchair accessible.



The lost girls of autism



3:00pm – 4:00pm

 Performance Space

 Ticket needed

 Talk

Hear how autism in women and girls has been missed in the past and how this is changing.

 Calm, quiet event



Fembots and dinosaurs: Scientific illustration workshop



3:30pm – 4:30pm

 Garden Room

 Ticket needed

 Art Workshop

Hear how movies and art shape science ideas. Draw pictures from what you learn about robots and dinosaurs!

 May involve some group talk





What's On – Saturday 13 September

If you're viewing this on an electronic device, click the event title to book your ticket or learn more on our website!

AI puzzle lab: Decode the future of healthcare



11:00am – 4:00pm

The Bistro

Drop-in

Activities

Play puzzles and games to learn how computers help doctors take care of people.

May be busy and noisy



Medicinal and mindful: Liverpool's botany of today



11:00am – 12:00pm

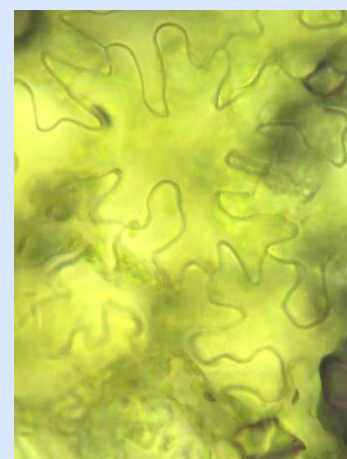
Garden Room

Ticket needed

Activity

Look closely at plants using microscopes () and chemicals to learn how plants can be used to help people feel better.

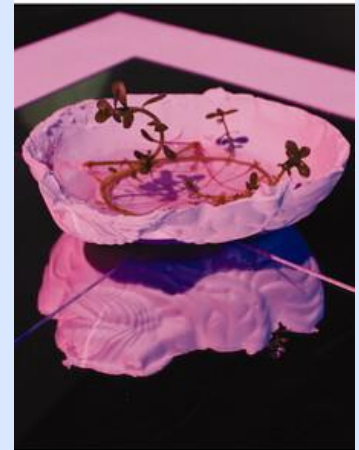
Quiet and calm



Convergence: Exploring the Art in Science



11:00am – 4:00pm



 The Bistro

 Drop-in

 Art Exhibition

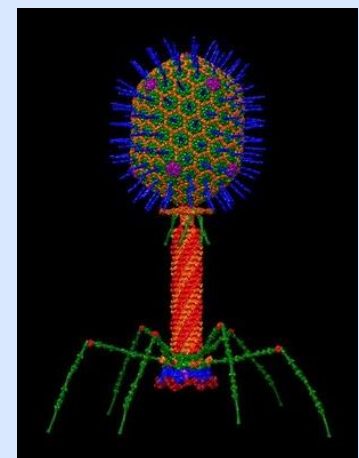
Look at artworks made by scientists and artists working together inspired by science.

 May be busy

What the phage?!



11:00am – 4:00pm



 The Bistro

 Drop-in

 Activities

Play games and use VR (virtual reality) to learn about tiny viruses called phages that fight bacteria.

 May be noisy and use VR headsets

Welcome to Microbe City!



11:00am – 4:00pm

 The Bistro

 Drop-in

 Activity

Help build a giant LEGO city and learn about tiny living things that live all around us called microbes.

 May be busy and noisy



Navigating an uncertain future



11:30am – 4:00pm

 Performance Space

 Drop-in

 Art Installation

Read poems, hear sounds, and watch ice slowly melt. This is an experience that makes you think about climate change.

 The room is dark with soft lighting.

 Mostly quiet and calm. Some gentle music will play.



Geophonic: A rock and walk performances



11:30am – 12:30pm



and 2:30pm – 3:30pm

 Bluecoat Courtyard

 Ticket needed

 Performance

Go on a walk with people dressed as talking rocks and learn about the hidden sounds of rocks.

 Outdoors, may have some loud moments

 Walking involved. The tour is entirely wheelchair accessible - though some surfaces might be a bit uneven (cobblestones)!



Archive adventures: Creative writing workshop



1:00pm–2:00pm

 Garden Room

 Ticket needed

 Workshop

Use science history to help you write creative stories.

 Calm, quiet event



Prosthetics: Past, present, future



3:00pm – 4:00pm

 Garden Room

 Ticket needed

 Talk

Find out how people have used artificial arms and legs through history and today.

 Calm, quiet event





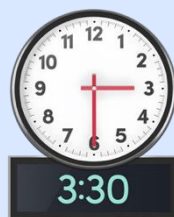
What's On – Sunday 14 September

If you're viewing this on an electronic device, click the event title to book your ticket or learn more on our website!

Geophonic: A rock and walk performances



11:30am – 12:30pm and



3:30pm – 4:00pm

 Bluecoat Courtyard

 Ticket needed

 Performance

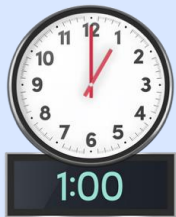
Go on a walk with people dressed as talking rocks and learn about the hidden sounds of rocks.

 Outdoors, may have some loud moments

 Walking involved. The tour is entirely wheelchair accessible - though some surfaces might be a bit uneven (cobblestones)!



Blue Room Art Lab: Patterns, patterns, everywhere



1:00pm – 4:00pm

 Performance Space

 Ticket needed

 Art activities

Join in fun art activities about space, stars, and patterns from an inclusive local art group!

 May have some noise



Thank you

This guide has been produced in consultation with Blue Room, the Bluecoat's inclusive arts project supporting learning disabled and neurodivergent artists.

They have a webpage: <https://www.thebluecoat.org.uk/projects/blue-room>

How to book tickets

 Some events need a ticket.

Here's how to do it:



1. Go to the website: **britishsciencefestival.org/events**
2. Find the event you want to go to
3. Click '**Book now**'
4. Choose how many tickets you want
5. Click '**Go to cart**'
6. Click '**Continue**'
7. You can **create an account** or **continue as guest**
8. Fill in your **name** and **email**
9. Agree to the terms and conditions
10. Click '**Continue**'
11. Done! Your ticket will be sent to your email
12. Bring your ticket to the event (on your phone or printed)

Still got questions?

 Talk to one of our festival assistants – look out for their **pink t-shirts**!

 Email us at:
RM.Festival@britishscienceassociation.org

 Check out our website:
<https://britishsciencefestival.org/>

