

STOKING CURIOSITY

22 and 23 November 2019

Spode Works, 32 Eleanora Street, Stoke ST4 1QD

Call for Proposals

FAQs

What is it?

- Stoking Curiosity is a festival aiming to nurture a community of curious people in Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire
- It's a place to spark ideas and get involved in research together by building Community--University partnerships

What it isn't?

It isn't about just listening to someone else talk.

It is not just a showcase of academic expertise led by Universities.

Who's the Festival for?

Stoking Curiosity is for anyone who is curious about anything!

- People coming along by themselves, with friends, with family
- Community and voluntary groups and organisations
- Businesses and enterprises
- Students and staff from universities
- People of all ages and backgrounds

(Some events might be suitable for certain age groups.)

How does it work?

The festival is about interesting stuff!

- Asking and debating questions about the world, about life
- Having a go, trying things out, sharing ideas around the environment, the human body and mind, art, history, ceramics, the planets and much more
- Joining researchers from the Universities to do some research or quizzing them about it
- Making connections between communities and Universities: it's about breaking down barriers to make sure everyone can take part

Who runs it?

The festival is co-organised by a partnership between the communities of Stoke-on-Trent, Stoke-on-Trent City Council and Keele and Staffordshire Universities.

Who's this call-out for?

Anyone who would like to encourage curiosity in others, get them interested and excited about things you know and care about:

- An idea or some research to share
- A burning question to ask
- Something to show
- A hands-on activity for people
- Testing out ideas

How could you share your ideas at the Festival?

Read about the 2018 Stoking Curiosity Festival [here](#) to see how people took part in 2018. Some examples are:

- Holding a group conversation on what makes you curious
- Creating an interactive exhibit or installation
- Running a workshop or doing an interactive performance/ activity.

Whatever you decide to do, it's important that it lets the visitors participate in the activity. The Festival isn't about just telling people something.

I can't plan an activity because I don't know what Spode Works is like.

If you want to see the site before submitting your idea, email us at stokingcuriosity@keele.ac.uk or ring 01782 734908

How will ideas be selected?

The Festival will be curated by the Festival Steering Group, which is made up of local people and staff from community organisations, Stoke-on-Trent City Council and Keele and Staffordshire Universities. We will look for proposals which clearly explain:

- A topic or idea
- How you will engage people in your activity or research
- What type of activity or conversation you want to have
- What makes your proposal exciting
- What support/space/equipment you need and the physical stuff you can bring

What about funding?

We may be able to cover some other costs, such as for stationery and bus travel. Contact us for more details.

How do you send an idea and what's the last date?

Click on the link below to fill in a short form with your proposal. Please send in your proposal by the 12 July latest.

Do you have any questions?

If you have trouble with the form, or if you have any more questions, or want to arrange a site visit, email stokingcuriosity@keele.ac.uk or ring 01782 734908.

When will you know if your proposal has been accepted?

We will tell you if your proposal has been accepted or not no later than the 31 July 2019. If your proposal is accepted, we might have suggestions for you or want to talk your ideas over with you to help make the Festival programme as exciting and varied as possible, and to support you to make the most of your skills and knowledge.

