

VOLUNTEERING AT THE GREAT EXHIBITION ROAD FESTIVAL 2025



**Saturday 7 and/or
Sunday 8 June
10:30AM - 6:30PM
South Kensington
Campus**

CONTENTS

Welcome! Thank you for your interest in volunteering

You've made it this far, so we know you are interested in the Festival. But you are probably wondering what we mean by 'volunteering for the Festival', as well as what the benefits are for you and how the day works.

We've put together this handy brochure that paints a picture of the volunteering experience so you can join us with confidence.

There's a lot of information to take in, so please take your time to read carefully and don't hesitate to get in touch with the team if you have any questions.

Happy reading, and we hope to see you at the Festival!

Maeve & the Festival team

WHY VOLUNTEER?

KEY DATES

ON THE DAY

WHAT ROLES CAN I DO?

Location volunteering
Specialist roles

VOLUNTEER LOCATIONS

Adults Only Zone
Eureka Zone
Exhibition Road
Family Fun Zone
Future Food Live
Future Medicine Zone
Green Zone
Be a Scientist Zone
Natural World Zone
NextGen Zone (Young People)
Tech Zone

SPECIALIST AREAS

Community Leader
Public Evaluator

FAQs



pep.volunteering@imperial.ac.uk

WHY VOLUNTEER?

Volunteering at The Great Exhibition Road Festival can give you the opportunity to try something new, gain experience, develop skills, build confidence, meet new people and have fun.

It is exclusively open to all current staff and students at Imperial.

Volunteering is **for you** if you are interested in:

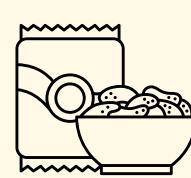
- Helping deliver events which inspire the public with world class research
- Welcoming the public to the College and providing a great visitor experience
- Getting to know people in a fun and supportive environment
- Trying something a bit different from your day to day role or study
- Being part of a diverse community of volunteers across the College
- Building transferable skills and experience



WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

FREE:

- Kokoro lunch (worth £10+)
- Snacks throughout the day
- Certificate of participation
- Training for your specific role
- Limited edition **Tony's Festival chocolate** as a thank you gift



KEY DATES

WED. 12 MARCH

Volunteer sign up opens

WED. 16 MAY

Volunteer sign up closes

TUE. 28 &
WED. 29 MAY

In-person and online
briefings

TUE. 3 & THU.

5 JUNE

Optional walking tour briefings
(get to know the site)

FRI. 6 JUNE

Festival set up

SAT. 7 & SUN.

8 JUNE

The Great Exhibition
Road Festival!

ON THE DAY

A day in the life of you

TIME	WHAT	WHERE
10:30am (start of your shift)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Arrive at the Volunteer Hub & sign inCollect your Festival hi-vis vest, lanyard, badge & lunch voucherDrop off personal belongings in Volunteer Green Room	Electrical Electronic Engineering Building (EEE) off Dalby Court
11:00am	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Go to your Zone or specialist locationMeet your supervisor and get a briefing for the day	Your Zone or specialist location
12:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Festival opens to the public!	Your Zone or specialist location
Between 12:30pm and 3pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Take your lunch break as instructed by your supervisorExchange your lunch voucher for a hot lunch	Electrical Electronic Engineering Building (EEE) off Dalby Court
6:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Festival closes to the public	Your Zone or specialist location
Until 6:30pm (end of your shift)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Help your supervisor with tidying and pack downAt the end of your shift, head back to the Volunteer Hub to sign out, return your hi-vis vest, lanyard and badge, then collect your belongings, your thank you gift, and head home	Your Zone or specialist location, then the Volunteer Hub



WHAT ROLES CAN I DO?

To help you choose where you want to be, we have outlined the different volunteer locations and types of roles we have on offer. Each role has a different capacity (*so if you really like it, sign up before someone else does!*)

You can volunteer for a particular **area** or for a **specialist role**.

Read on to learn more...

VOLUNTEER LOCATIONS

PAGE 1

The Festival is largely split into **Zones** to help visitors navigate the programme. The activities within each Zone are grouped by **theme** (i.e. Tech Zone) or **intended age-range** (i.e. young people). As well as Festival Zones, there are also **performance spaces**, and activity happening along Exhibition Road and in partner organisations.

The following locations are where we will be placing our Imperial volunteers, although these aren't the only locations where activity will be happening during the weekend.

AREA	WHERE & WHAT IS IT?	HIGHLIGHTS & NO. OF SPACES
ADULTS ONLY ZONE 	<p>Location: Beit Quad, Prince Consort Road</p> <p>Description: Escape from the crowds in our Adults Only Zone! Relax with some insect-inspired yoga or grab a drink and get into the secrets to life-long health and happiness.</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science Cabaret • Insect-inspired yoga • Bollywood dance workshop • Poetry Machine <p>10 SPACES PER DAY</p>
BE A SCIENTIST ZONE 	<p>Location: Flowers Building</p> <p>Description: Get involved in cutting-edge science and shape the future of Imperial research in the Live Science zone. From saving seagrass to developing new VR tech, find researchers keen to work with you.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 360 sound with VR • Feel live seagrass • Prosthetic limbs <p>5 SPACES PER DAY</p>
EUREKA ZONE (plus a Science Show!) 	<p>Location: Imperial College Main Entrance & City and Guilds</p> <p>Description: From space exploration to robotic construction, discover the latest scientific breakthroughs from Imperial and its European friends, explored through live demos, and artistic interpretations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Latest scientific breakthroughs • The super-cool chemical engineering show • Art-astronomy drawing sessions <p>10 SPACES PER DAY</p>
EXHIBITION ROAD 	<p>Location: Exhibition Road (outdoors)</p> <p>Description: The main thoroughfare of the Festival on the iconic Exhibition Road. Hear performances on our Main Stage, take part in workshops, and watch artists create large-scale artworks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music on the Main Stage • Roaming performers • Quantum Silent Disco • Workshops from Festival partners • Paint Lab <p>15 SPACES PER DAY</p>
FAMILY FUN ZONE 	<p>Location: Prince's Gardens (outdoors)</p> <p>Description: Meet scientists, musicians, engineers artists and doctors and try out awesome activities specially created for families with children under 12.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Stage • Molecule Detectives • Under 5s tent • Relaxed early opening for neurodiverse families on Sunday <p>12 SPACES PER DAY</p>

VOLUNTEER LOCATIONS

PAGE 2

AREA	WHERE & WHAT IS IT?	HIGHLIGHTS & NO. OF SPACES
FUTURE FOOD LIVE 	Location: Imperial College Road (outdoors & marquee) Description: Explore new flavours and ingredients, as chefs and scientists whip up dishes that you can sample right there and then!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Live cooking shows with chefs and scientists Interactive with the audience <p>4 SPACES PER DAY</p>
FUTURE MEDICINE ZONE 	Location: Business School Description: Discover the future of healthcare at the Future Medicine Zone! Explore AI-powered diagnostics, wearable tech, and live demos—from dancing with AI to meeting real mosquitoes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AI detection of dance moves Live mosquitoes Global research <p>3 SPACES PER DAY</p>
GREEN ZONE (plus a talks programme) 	Location: Sir Alexander Fleming Building Description: In a dynamic hub for sustainability research, meet innovators, engage in hands-on exhibits, and tackle climate challenges for a greener future!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spotlight Talks Subterranean Ceilidh Flood mitigation pavements <p>10 SPACES PER DAY</p>
NATURAL WORLD ZONE 	Location: Imperial College Road (outdoors & marquee) Description: Discover nature's wonders in the Natural World Zone! Explore glowing plants, urban wildlife, and nanotech solutions. Get hands-on, solve mysteries, and imagine a greener future with scientists and artists!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design your own butterfly costume Mystery of the missing plants <p>5 SPACES PER DAY</p>
NEXTGEN ZONE 	Location: Smith Centre (Science Museum) Description: Developed by young people, this is a space that's designed exclusively for people aged between 13 and 24.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chemically engineered popcorn Games about the atomic realm Mindful collage workshop <p>5 SPACES PER DAY</p>
TECH ZONE 	Location: Queen's Tower Rooms Description: Discover the Tech Zone, where you can explore robotics, medical wearables, and quantum technology. Get hands-on with cell painting, an immersive quantum experience, and a robot playground. Get curious, creative, and inspired!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cell painting workshop Immersive quantum physics installation Robot playground <p>7 SPACES PER DAY</p>

SPECIALIST ROLES

There are parts of the Festival that don't fit into a Zone, and require a **special interest** in the role. For some of these roles, you will require to **attend additional training** so that we can support you and prepare you for a great experience. These roles are perfect for a volunteer who wants to gain some new skills and have a bit more responsibility.

ROLE	WHERE & WHAT IS IT?	HIGHLIGHTS & NO. OF SPACES
COMMUNITY LEADER 	<p>Location: Entire Festival site</p> <p>Description: This role has been created to help make visitors from community groups (some with special needs) feel more welcome and comfortable within the Festival. You will be assigned one group for the day and be their guide for the pre-arranged visit. For this role you are required to have additional training with our Inclusion Manager.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Gain valuable experience working with people with additional needsExplore the Festival from a different perspective <p>10 SPACES PER DAY</p>
PUBLIC EVALUATOR 	<p>Location: Entire Festival site (including partner venues)</p> <p>Description: This role requires you to engage with members of the public to get meaningful responses to the Festival evaluation survey (conducted on tablets). You will get the chance to speak with our visitors, hear about their experiences at the Festival and help to improve future events.</p> <p>The timing for this role is a bit different. If you are an Evaluation Volunteer, you arrive at 1pm to have lunch (provided by us) and then get briefed at 2pm by the specialist evaluation company 'Graphic Science'.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">See all the venues across the Festival, including the V&A, Science Museum, and Natural History MuseumReceive valuable training from a specialist evaluation company1pm-6:30pm shift time <p>10 SPACES PER DAY</p>

FAQs

How do I sign up?

Go to our volunteer portal [here](#) and follow the instructions.



Do I have to choose a Zone/role or can I be assigned on the day?

You **don't need to commit to a Zone or role** if you don't want to. You might be an experienced volunteer who enjoys the idea of being assigned anywhere, or you might just not particularly mind where you are placed. Select '**Flexible shift**' from the list, and you can be assigned when you arrive to the area that needs you. It is helpful for us to have flexible volunteers in case of drop outs on the day.

Can I volunteer in a few Zones on the same day?

Afraid not. To make sure you get the most out of the volunteering experience, we require everyone to stay in the same area for the whole day so that everyone is briefed at the same time and feels confident in their area. But don't worry - your supervisor will rotate the roles regularly throughout the day within the Zone and ensure you aren't bored.

Are there unlimited spaces on each shift?

No, spaces are **not** unlimited. Look at the number of places available on the list of shifts when you are logged into the volunteer portal. So if you are super keen on volunteering for something in particular, sign up quick!

I have accessibility needs. Can I volunteer?

Absolutely. Please email the team to discuss your needs and we can advise on where you might be best placed and look at how we can support your volunteering experience - this could include something simple like needing a role that doesn't require a lot of standing, or to be in a quieter area where there aren't as many people and crowds.

What about lunch?

Not only do we provide you with a yummy lunch from **H-Bar's Kokoro**, we also provide snacks for you throughout the day to keep you energised. Lunch is served in the Volunteer Hub, where you go to exchange your lunch voucher. There is a meat option (which is also halal) and a vegan option for a hot lunch, both of which contain gluten. If you require a gluten free lunch, this is provided by Imperial College Campus Services (sandwich, crisps, fruit and still water).

Can I volunteer with a friend?

Of course, the more the merrier! If you want to volunteer in the same place, make sure you are both signed up to volunteer in that Zone - then you'll be together all day. But remember, you will make new friends during the day with your team, so don't be afraid to volunteer solo.

Click [here](#) for
more FAQs
on the Imperial
College website